

Convoy of British refugees ready to roll as Ashdown queries view that UN allows strike on Iraq

Challenge to Thatcher over Gulf action

By ANDREW MCGEEN IN JEDDAH AND PHILIP WEBSTER IN LONDON

THE prime minister was last night challenged by Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrats' leader, over her assertion that the United Nations charter would authorise a strike against Iraq.

Mrs Thatcher's interpretation of article 51 of the charter as removing the need to return to the UN for authority for military action could prove a significant point of contention when the Commons debates the Gulf confrontation on Thursday and Friday.

An attempt is to be made early today to take a convoy of buses carrying British women and children from Kuwait to Baghdad. The British community in Kuwait was to be alerted by the BBC World Service last night to be ready to leave early this morning.

British sources in Riyadh said the convoy was expected to set off at 5.30am. It was organised by British people in Kuwait, acting for the diplomats who remain unable to leave the British embassy.

In Iraq the government has started to ration food, while American diplomats in Kuwait were breaking up furniture for firewood and boiling swimming pool water for drinking. The Canadian and Japanese embassies were experiencing similar difficulties but Michael Weston and his staff of three at the British embassy were said to be holding up well.

In Britain the first hint of a rift in the political consensus that has existed since the

invasion of Kuwait appeared as Sir Geoffrey Howe, the deputy prime minister and Commons leader, last night emphasised the importance of the government maintaining international and cross-party support for its response to the Gulf conflict. With MPs preparing to return to Westminster, Sir Geoffrey underlined the need for a

countering her claim, made forcefully in her TV interview with David Frost on Sunday, that a strike would be covered either by returning to the UN for specific authority or by article 51, which provides the right of self-defence against an aggressor.

Either way would be legal, she said. Under that interpretation military action could be taken even in the face of opposition from the UN.

Sir Geoffrey's intervention came in a speech to a Conservative audience in Newbury. He spoke of courage and cool judgment, resolution and patience being needed if the crucial aims of the international community were to be achieved.

"So too we shall need to maintain, step-by-step, the broad-based unity of approach which has carried us thus far along what may yet prove to be a very hard road," he said. "The United Kingdom has played a most significant role in spreading and sustaining that unity. It is right to acknowledge that that task by the responsible support of Opposition leaders since the crisis broke."

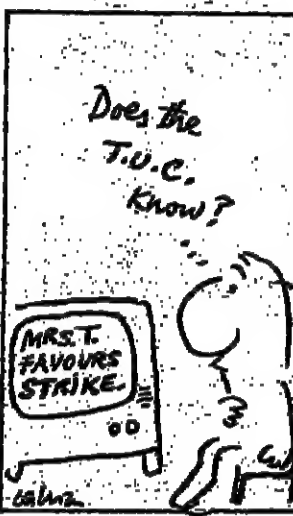
It was emphasised last night that Sir Geoffrey's remarks were not in any sense a response to the prime minister's interview or the views of Opposition politicians about her interpretation of article 51.

Article 51 says: "Nothing in the present charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a member of the United Nations until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by members in the exercise of this right to self-defence shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security."

Labour's misgivings over Mrs Thatcher's attitude to article 51 are equally strong. Action taken outside the authority of a UN resolution could cause serious problems, Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, conceded in an interview on London Weekend Television's *Walden* programme on Sunday.

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United approach in the face of what he predicted would be a long drawn-out test. In a speech warning the support of Opposition leaders in sustaining unity, Sir Geoffrey said Iraq's failure to respond to the 'Pérez de Cuellar' mission showed the extent to which 'our resolve is likely to be tested in the days to come'.

Mrs Thatcher's interpretation of article 51 as precluding the need to return to the UN for authority for military action is causing stir among Opposition parties. In the debate the government will receive backing from Labour and other parties for its handling of events since the invasion, although a voice forced by the left at the end of the debate is virtually certain. The government is receiving obvious signals that the consensus would be put under heavy strain if it backed the United States in a military venture without first returning to the UN to seek authorisation through a specific resolution. Mr Ashdown last night wrote to Mrs Thatcher

INSIDE

Call for 'free' central bank

EC central bank governors are agreed that a future European central bank should be independent of government control. Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, told the free market Moot Pelerin Society in Munich. He said: "Historical experience shows that monetary stability can best be expected of a system which is independent of political interference."

He has persuaded fellow European Community central banks to take a tough line on the independence of a future European central bank, that could undermine the political momentum for rapid European monetary union and a single currency. Page 21

Welsh battle

After years of decline, the farming communities of rural Wales are fighting back to win investment and create new jobs and homes which they hope will stop the exodus of young people. Pages 14-15

Defiant Yeltsin

Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation, told his parliament that Russia would press ahead with its programme of economic decentralisation regardless of whether agreement was reached with Moscow. Page 20

Degree courses

A list of vacancies for degree courses in humanities and social sciences at British universities, polytechnics and colleges is published today. Degrees awarded by the University of Lancaster also appear today. Page 33

Taylor's men

Graham Taylor, the England football manager, kept faith with the players who reached the World Cup semi-finals when he named his first squad. Page 38

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OS



Long wait in the heat: refugees packed into a hall near Amman awaiting transport out of Jordan. Thousands more are still trapped in the desert

Misery of the desert refugee camps

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN SHAALAN CAMP ON
THE JORDAN-IRAQ BORDER

IN THE corner of an emergency medical tent staffed by volunteers from the Jordanian Red Crescent Society and the International Red Cross, an Egyptian woman refugee from Kuwait was giving birth, the heat of the midday sun burning through the canvas as she screamed in labour pains.

Around her lay Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis and Filipinos, all refugees from Kuwait and Iraq who have now become victims of dehydration. They lay with saline drips in their arms on dusty tarpaulins for lack of beds, with scarce medical supplies stacked on upturned crates nearby.

Outside an ambulance tore through the stifling hot and airless refugee camp, sending up clouds of dust and sand as it came to a halt. A middle-aged man from Sri Lanka had just died after chronic diarrhoea and vomiting, which the hard-pressed camp doctors were unable to treat properly.

The man was the first known fatality since the transit camp opened here in mid-August, a desperate measure by the Jordanian authorities, who have been overwhelmed by the human tide which streamed their way and is still coming.

"There will be more deaths," said Dr Khaleel Abu Halimeh, a 40-year-old doctor from Amman who had volunteered to help. He had not slept for three nights and looked exhausted, wiping the sweat from his eyes. "Given the right conditions, we could have saved him," he said as the ambulance headed across the rock-strewn desert to the main road to Amman. "Everything in these conditions is difficult. This is really a disaster. If we stay here much longer many more will die."

Yesterday as the refugee crisis mounted, the refugees turned their anger not so

Continued on page 20, col 3

Syria and Libya blamed for French DC10 bomb

By VINCENT MCCULLOUGH

PRESIDENT Assad of Syria, Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, and Ahmed Jibril of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command were responsible for the bombing of a French DC10 airliner over the Sahara on September 19 last year, according to an official French investigation.

The bomb killed 171 passengers and crew including Bonny Pugh, the wife of the US ambassador to Chad. The conclusions of the report have been suppressed to avoid upsetting French diplomatic links with Libya and Syria. Publication would also embarrass the Americans because Syria has sent a 2,000-strong force to Saudi Arabia alongside US troops to repel an Iraqi attack.

According to the report drawn up by a French *Juge d'instruction*, Jean-Louis Bruguière, who spent six months investigating the crash, the bomb was made from pentharite (a compound used in the Czechoslovak-made Semtex-H plastic explosive), and the attack itself

carried all the hallmarks of Ahmed Jibril, the prime suspect in the bombing of the Pan Am jumbo over Lockerbie in December 1988.

The plane, belonging to the privately owned French airline UTA, was on a flight from Brazzaville to Paris, via Ndjamena, the capital of Chad. The bomb was carried on to Flight 772 in the luggage of a Congolese national, Apollinaire Mangatany, who may have perished in the explosion or (more likely) is in hiding in Zaire.

At a meeting with President Mitterrand, Mr Bruguière delivered his conclusions verbally. Also present were Pierre Joxe, minister of the interior, and the heads of the French security services, including the external counter-espionage service DGSE and the internal DST (Direction de la Sécurité du Territoire) which had a hand in the investigation. M Bruguière heads the 14th section of the *parquet* (prosecution service) in Paris — the Service Centrale de la

Lutte Antiterroriste (Sclat). After piecing the shattered DC10 together in a hangar at Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris, M Bruguière established that the bomb was made from pentharite and packed in a suitcase, one of 5,000 manufactured in a Denver, Colorado, factory between 1982 and 1985.

Sclat formed in 1986 after a terrorist bomb exploded in the Rue de Rennes in Paris, and the judge has plenty of experience of terrorism, especially the handiwork of Colonel Gaddafi and Ahmed Jibril. M Bruguière spent two and a half years investigating the shipment of 120 tonnes of weaponry and explosives, including a tonne of Semtex-H, from Libya to the IRA, which culminated in the capture of the Eksund off the Brittany coast and its four-man Irish crew, three of whom are awaiting trial in Paris.

Ahmed Jibril's hand was believed to be behind a pentharite bomb at Rome airport in 1986 which killed 16

Continued on page 20, col 7

Anger at jailing of railman

By LIN JENKINS

THE six-month imprisonment of the Purley train crash driver who failed to respond to warning signals to slow down, was strongly criticised last night as the drivers' union said it would lodge an appeal.

Robert Morgan was sentenced to 18 months' jail, with a year suspended, after pleading guilty at the Central Criminal Court to two charges of manslaughter. The charges related to two of the five people who died when the Littlehampton to Victoria train he was driving hit the Horsham to Victoria train in May.

Mr Justice Kennedy said that although there was no need to impose a sentence to deter other drivers, "I do not believe it is possible to deal with a case such as this but by a sentence of imprisonment". Derek Fullick, general secretary of Aslef, said he was stunned by the sentence. "It seems there is one law for the worker and one law for the corporate body."

Driver jailed, page 3

TUC backs Labour curb on unions

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership was confident last night that it could approach the next general election able to defend itself against accusations that it was in the pockets of the unions after the TUC Congress backed its employment law proposals to curb industrial action.

After a bruising and at times vindictive debate, the delegates rejected left wing counter-proposals, which some union leaders believed could make Labour unelectable.

The debate provoked a furious clash between Arthur Scargill, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, and Norman

Willis, general secretary of the TUC. Mr Scargill, to applause and cheers, said: "You are supporting a move which betrays all the principles upon which we have fought for the past 25 years." As he did so, Mr Willis muttered into his microphone: "That's rubbish."

Mr Willis' intervention stung Mr Scargill into calling him a "sumo wrestler" before he continued his speech. Later, Mr Willis apologised to Mr Scargill for his remarks claiming they had been made because of "extenuating circumstances".

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Leading article, page 11

Orwell ousts Marx in classroom revolution

From ROGER BOYES
IN WARSAW

FREUD is out, Orwell in. Lenin has slipped off the reading list and the Pope's writings are now compulsory. Thus, when the corridor bell rang out yesterday in the kindergartens, primary and grammar schools of Eastern Europe, they signalled not only the end of the summer holidays but also the dawn of a new educational system.

Post-communist governments have been busily weeding out "totalitarian" elements from the old curriculum and inserting classics of liberal thought in time for the beginning of the school year. The history syllabus has been overhauled and scripture classes are to be introduced in the three most Catholic-orientated countries, Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Public schools modelled on the British system are to provide competition to state education. The changes are most thorough in Poland

where former dissident academics have been running the ministry of education for almost a year. Even so there has been no time to print and distribute new textbooks. Teachers have to rely on photocopied segments of the new thinking or scribble in the margins of the communist-era books.

Naturally enough, teachers of the 20th-century history courses have to put in the most work. Whole chapters devoted to the establishment of the Polish Communist party are now simply crossed or ripped out. Sometimes, though, it is enough to change a word. In the communist textbooks the Red Army "entered" Poland in 1939. Now the word is "attacked".

A new chapter has been handed out dealing frankly with "Soviet policy towards Polish citizens". Deportations and arrests, once forbidden subjects, are back in the schoolroom. The Soviet Union's ambiguous role during the wartime Warsaw uprising, during which the Soviet Army stayed

on the far bank of the Vistula while the Germans put down the Polish insurgents, will be given a place in the curriculum.

The reading lists have been thoroughly combed. Victor Hugo's *Gavroche* is regarded as too socialist and is no longer compulsory. It has been replaced by Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, which some parents reckon to be a poor exchange. Maxim Gorky has been dropped from the compulsory reading of grammar school pupils and replaced with Bruno Schulz, the poignant Polish Jewish writer. Freud goes but Carl Jung is in. Dissident Soviet poets do well: Josef Brodsky, Osip Mandelstam and Anna Akhmatova are all in favour.

In civic studies all Marxist vocabulary has been excised. Social classes become social groups, parties do not fight but participate in power. "A free society" is the source of power. The primacy of the workers is nowhere to be found. The content

then is radically different. Unfortunately teaching methods are not. Although teachers' salaries have doubled or even trebled under the Solidarity government, the income is still not enough to attract new graduates. The teachers in the new liberal order are thus frequently the same people who taught the old communist texts.

Out of frustration with the system parents and academics have been setting up private and public schools. The Church is also establishing its own schools in Poland and Hungary.

There are already 100 non-state schools in Poland, but the most prominent, Poland's Elon, is in Warsaw. "We want our pupils to get rid of the idea that they are learning only for grades," Dr Krystyna Staszewska, the headmistress, said yesterday. "Polish children have to develop their own motivation and take some responsibility for how their minds will be furnished."

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Purley rail crash driver is jailed for manslaughter

By LIN JENKINS

THE train driver who still cannot recall jumping the warning light, which led to five deaths in the Purley rail crash in south London, was last night beginning a six-month jail sentence.

Robert Morgan, aged 47, was jailed for 18 months, with one year suspended, after admitting at the Old Bailey two charges of manslaughter when the Littlehampton to Victoria service he was driving smashed into the back of the Horsham to Victoria train on March 4 last year.

Mr Justice Kennedy told him that the question of sentence was a difficult one. It was not necessary to involve an element of deterrence as train drivers were steady, responsible men and there was no need to warn them of the consequences of failing to respond correctly to signals.

"But it is important to remember this, the train driver's essential task is to watch for the signals and to obey them. He is not like a driver on the road with 101 things coming from different directions."

"I recognise that in some cases monotony can lead to error, but you had a clear run until you reached the first signal that you cancelled. I have to reflect the public concern that those who provide services should do so carefully, conscious of the implications of serious shortcomings."

Punishment in line with previous cases

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE jailing yesterday of the train driver who failed to heed warning signals, causing a crash in which five people were killed and 87 injured, is the latest in a line of cases where people have been prosecuted for manslaughter in connection with their work.

The manslaughter charges and custodial penalty are in line with previous cases. They also indicate an increasing willingness by courts to penalise such negligence as a crime that merits custody.

Graham Zellick, professor of public law at Queen Mary and Westfield College, London, said the sentence of imprisonment was appropriate. "These prosecutions for manslaughter by gross negligence are not very common. They tend to be only in a handful of the conspicuous cases because there is a certain reluctance to categorise the mistakes that people make in the course of their work as criminal. Everyone makes mistakes and has lapses of judgement."

In a recent case an anaesthetist was given a six-month suspended sentence after he left the operating table for refreshments and the patient died. In another an electrician's faulty work led to the death of a 23-year-old father. The electrician was given a nine-month suspended sentence. Prof-

essor Zellick said manslaughter through gross negligence differed from other serious crimes in that neither intention nor recklessness was required. Lack of "intention", a normal ingredient of criminal law, made sentencing in such cases very difficult.

"The culpability is of a different order and these offenders do not seem to be criminals or offenders in the normal way." The closest parallel was with driving offences, which did not even require proof of carelessness. In such manslaughter cases, however, to constitute a crime there had to be a specific lapse, resulting in death, which "falls so far short of the minimum standards required that it is not just the sort of error one makes under rather difficult circumstances or under strain". It was right that there should be a custodial sentence to reflect that.

Martin Allen, solicitor co-ordinating claims arising from the Purley crash, said that had British Rail not admitted liability then the guilty plea of the driver would have been of help to the claimants in seeking compensation. As a result of yesterday's hearing he would investigate the possibility of exemplary damages, which are payable where there are factors over and above the usual criteria.

Julian Bevan, for the prosecution, said the accident, which sent six of the eight coaches on the Littlehampton train down an embankment killing five people and injuring 87, was caused by the failure of Morgan to pay heed to the signalling system. "He passed a red signal going far too fast to stop. He had been warned in

advance of the possibility of that signal being red, the first [warning] being more than a mile from the red signal itself."

That first warning was a double yellow information signal 1 1/4 miles from the red light just beyond Purley station where the Horsham service was running about two minutes late and crossing on to the slow track.

Morgan's train was fitted with an advance warning system that rang a bell in the cab if the lights were green. With a single yellow light, or a double yellow light, a horn sounded and the driver had to press a button acknowledging the warning in order to cancel an automatic braking system that would come into effect within three seconds.

This he did at the double yellow signal "which does not oblige the driver to reduce speed then and there, but to be prepared to pull up if the next signal is a single yellow warning that the next signal is red", Mr Bevan said.

"Thereafter he passed a single yellow informing him that the next was likely to be red and he failed to pay heed to that signal by reducing the speed of his train so he could stop before the red. He was going too fast to avoid the catastrophe."

Consequently, the train was travelling at about 70 mph through Purley station when Morgan spotted the red signal, which could be seen from only 321 yards away because the station canopy obscured the view. Morgan applied the brakes but 215 yards beyond that signal the train careened into the other.

Morgan, whose cab ended up facing the way it had come, received facial and neck injuries. When interviewed in hospital he said that his mind was hazy and that he could only remember seeing the red signal and not overriding the single yellow one. He told his questioner: "I don't



Morgan: too late to avoid crash after jumping warning signals

remember anything about the signals before the red. If you say I was at fault, I accept responsibility."

Brian Leveson, for the defence, said Morgan, who had worked for British Rail for 30 years, had no recollection of the earlier signals. One could only infer that Morgan misread the single yellow signal for a double one. It was unusual to continue up the line passing repeated double yellow signals, particularly in a case such as this when the train was following the Gatwick Express.

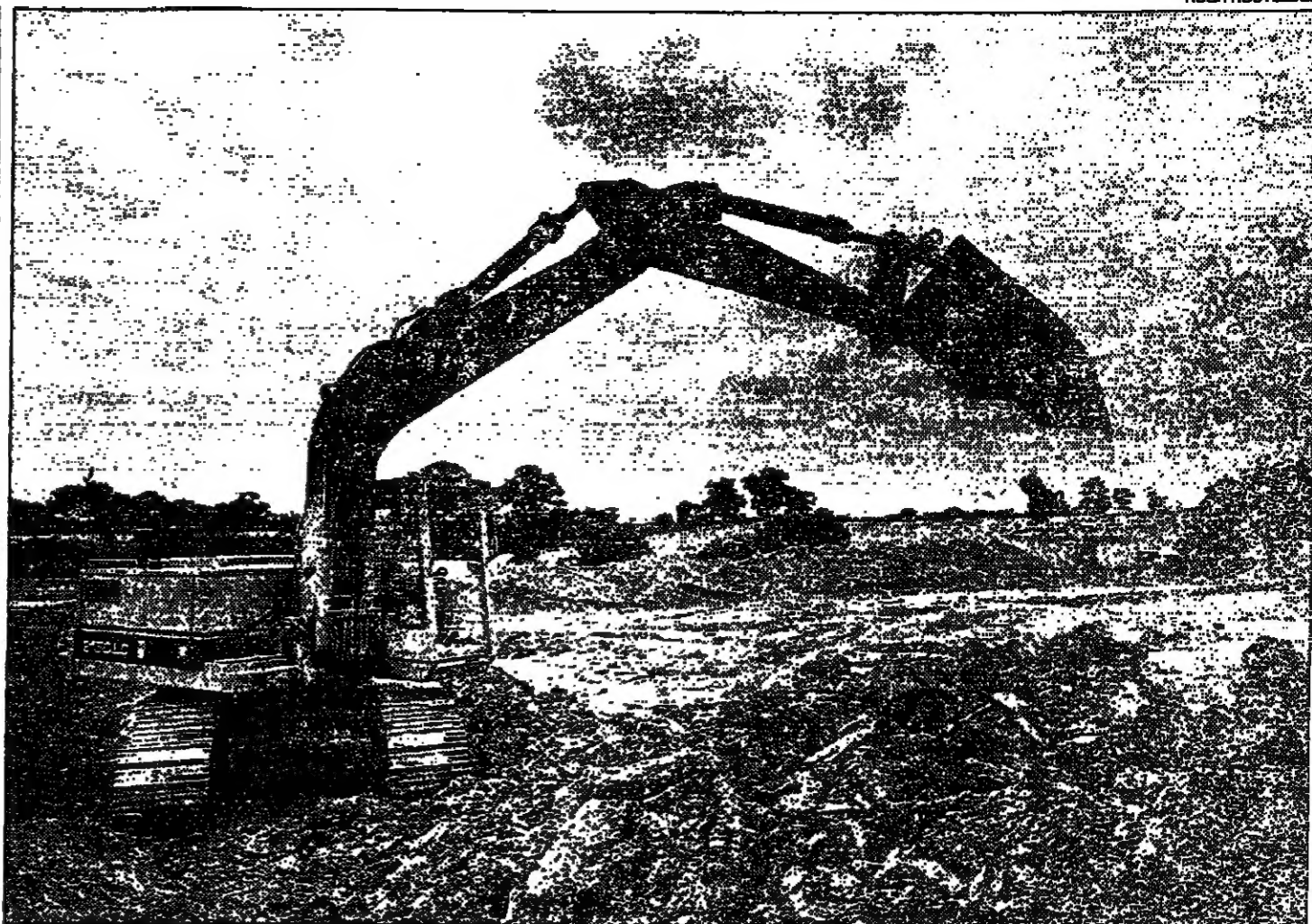
Mr Leveson suggested that studies conducted for British Rail might shed some light on how a driver of such good record could make a mistake. Monotony had been shown to be a contributory factor to "signal passed at danger" incidents, which occurred once in every 24 driver years.

Leaders of Morgan's union last night instructed lawyers to lodge an appeal against the severity of his sentence, claiming the driver was suffering from the consequences of British Rail's outdated safety systems.

Officials of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen are worried that Britain's 18,000 train drivers may take unofficial strike action in protest at the sentence. Some believe budget cuts have lowered safety standards.

The union was last night asking staff to remain calm while legal advice was sought on a possible appeal.

Derrick Fullick, Aslef general secretary, said last night: "I am stunned by the severity of the sentence. It seems to me that there is one law for the worker and one law for the corporate body. My drivers are driving without the safety advantages that are provided for their counterparts on the Continent."



Soon to be another landscaped green: construction under way for Stockbrook Manor Golf Club, in countryside near Billericay, Essex

Hard facts of farm life are beating ploughed fields into golf courses

ON THE northern edge of Billericay, in Essex, a mile or so south of the pretty village of Stock, a stretch of farmland is being carved up by earth-moving machines in what might at first sight be assumed to be an act of vandalism.

Closer inspection reveals that this is not an extreme attempt to curb Britain's agricultural subsidies by reducing ploughed fields to a lunar landscape of humps and craters. The site is simply in the throes of being turned into yet another golf course.

The company performing the task, AST Leisure Surfaces, of Witham, Essex, is one of a number engaged in altering the face of the countryside, changing fields into fairways and pastures into putting greens to meet what appears to be an insatiable demand for room to swing a club.

Ted Watson, AST's managing director, is a relaxed, affable man who spent the first 30 years of his working life as an agricultural contractor specialising in land drainage. In 1969, he led a management buy-out of a subsidiary company of Fisons, the chemical group, and built up what he says was at the time the largest drainage firm in Europe.

The Seventies were the boom years, when farmers were given every sort of incentive to "improve" land to increase production. In 1985, there was an abrupt change in government policy; the ending of drainage grants coincided with a dry winter and the beginning of the decline in farm incomes. "Business virtually came to a halt within three weeks," Mr Watson recalls.

For a time, he was able to switch his manpower and equipment into constructing sports grounds for schools and local authorities, but that offered only limited opportunities, and he was quick to realise that golf courses provided a more lucrative future.

So far, he has built four courses, and another dozen or so are under construction or being planned. He has also been approached by landowners in Germany, France and the Canary Islands, but is anxious not to overexpand. "Why should I go abroad if I can get plenty of work in Essex?" he asks.

It is a typically pertinent question. Within the last three years, in Essex alone, there have been an estimated 75 planning applications for new golf courses, 13 for

Tough times for agriculture and rising interest in golf are making construction of courses attractive to landowners but, as John Young reports, farm fairways pose questions for conservationists, planners and those hoping to profit

extensions to existing courses, and ten for driving ranges.

Recently, the county council decided to hold talks with 13 district councils and the eastern region of the Sports Council to form a policy on the siting of courses. A report to the county council's development control sub-committee claimed that, if all the applications were approved, they would swallow 15,000 acres of countryside and lead to a proliferation of associated developments, such as hotels, restaurants and sports complexes.

The golf course "boom" is a new phenomenon. Until three or four years ago, the market for new facilities was widely considered to be virtually moribund. According to Strutt & Parker, the land agent, very few new courses had been constructed since the last war.

Golf was dominated by traditional clubs with limited memberships and long waiting lists. Clubs were run by their members for their own benefit with little thought of commercial gain; all they wanted was to be able to pursue their game in a reasonably exclusive manner for as low a subscription as possible.

However, last year, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, effectively the ruling body for the sport, published a report that concluded that, if

demand were to be satisfied, some 700 new courses would need to be constructed by the year 2000. That would amount to an increase of more than a third in the total and would mean building virtually as many courses in the final decade of the century as had been completed in the previous 80 years.

That might have been dismissed as wishful thinking but for the fact that it coincided with a sharp decline in agricultural incomes, a collapse in farmland prices and the introduction of the "set-aside" scheme whereby farmers would be paid for taking land out of production. Farmers could not build or even graze cattle on set-aside land, but golf courses were considered a permissible use, on the reasoning that, in the event of a food crisis, the land could easily be restored to agricultural use.

For many hard-pressed farmers, golf seemed to offer a lifeline. However, land agents and bodies such as the Country Landowners' Association were quick to warn their members that it was not an automatic bonanza. New courses would prove viable only in areas where demand was high, which did not necessarily correspond with those where surplus farmland was readily available, they said. The most likely locations were in areas of scenic and environmental value, which might upset conserva-

tionists. A satisfactory golf course could not be built on a flat, treeless "prairie".

Moreover, very little research had been done into local demand. How was it possible to decide how many people really wanted to take up the game but had been prevented from doing so because of the impossibility of joining an existing club? If new facilities were provided, how far would people be prepared to travel and how often would they use them?

Mr Watson agrees with all these caveats. He attributes part of the sudden rise in public interest in golf to television: like snooker, it is a highly "televsual" game. It also lends itself to the new vogue for corporate entertaining.

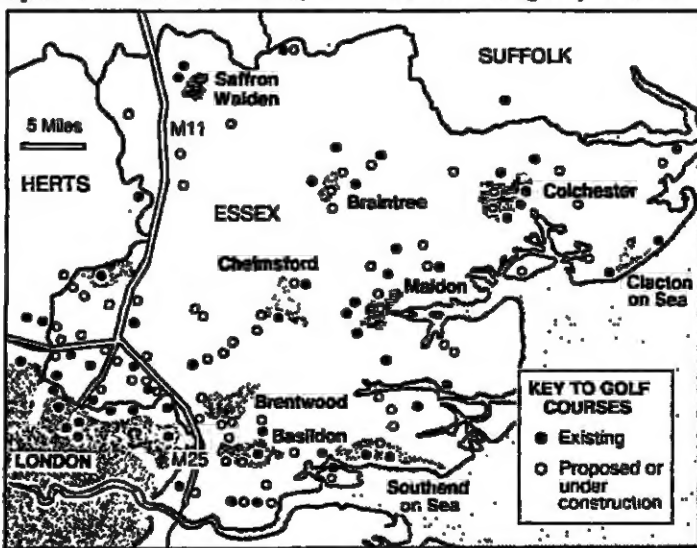
He recognises a risk, however, that the market may become oversupplied with indifferent courses. He has had to reject many sites as environmentally unsuitable, too remote or lacking adequate access.

Mr Watson is also concerned that many landowners have no idea of the cost involved. "The first question I ask them is 'Are you going to get people to play there?'" he says. "The second is whether they are prepared to pay up to £10,000 or more in applying for planning consent, which may well be rejected."

"The third is 'Who is going to finance the building of the course?'. We are talking about anything between £1 million and £6 million, and how many farmers have that sort of money? Most of them are living on overdrafts, and the banks certainly aren't going to lend them the money. So, it means finding an investor, a leisure company or a developer to put up the money."

Planning authorities are, he says, becoming noticeably more obstructive as applications continue to flood in, demanding up-to-date land surveys, details of tree planting programmes and assurances about access and traffic. Objections are also predictably raised by local residents concerned to protect their privacy.

Conservationist bodies such as the Council for the Protection of Rural England do not seem to like golf courses much, either. However, the golfers' cause has found support from the government's Nature Conservancy Council, which earlier this year said that, given imaginative design and careful management, new courses could be a boon to wildlife.



Golf zone: where fairways are springing up to meet new demand

Aids-like disease in ferrets threatens wildlife

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SOME of Britain's native animal species, still recovering after centuries of persecution, could be at risk from an Aids-like disease that has been found in pet ferrets.

The virus, which causes an incurable illness called aleutian disease, has been identified by Michael Oxenham, a Southampton vet and honorary member of the Wessex Ferret Club, in tests on local animals. His findings have forced organisers of the world 16-metre ferret racing championship, to be held this weekend at

Northington, near New Alresford, Hampshire, to call for animals to be tested before they compete.

Wildlife experts fear that the contagious disease, named after a strain of mink from the Aleutian Islands, in the Pacific, may be capable of crippling the immune systems of a family of animals called mustelids, of which the ferret is a member. The group includes the British polecat, badger, weasel, stoat and otter.

Ferrets, prized by countrymen for their skills at catching rabbits in burrows, commonly escape into the wild and details of their distribution, collected by the In-

stitute of Terrestrial Ecology at Monks Wood, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, show feral ferrets at large in southwest Scotland, the Isle of Man and northern and central England.

Britain's native mustelids numbers have been improving since the first world war, after a decline in the hunting of them as pests.

Wildlife experts say that it might be only a matter of time before escaped ferrets, carrying aleutian disease, confront these expanding native populations as they advance from remote Welsh and Scottish regions into feral ferret country. Don Jefferies, a

senior mammal scientist at the Nature Conservancy Council in Peterborough, said that of the British mustelids the polecat could be at greatest risk. The native polecat can breed with the ferret to produce a fertile hybrid, the fidgety ferret.

Dr Jefferies said that on mink farms, where the disease is thought to have originated, it was likely that infected animals were cullled to minimise the spread. "When animals become pets people spend a lot of time keeping them alive. The problem is that if you use a ferret for rabbiting they sooner or later escape," he said.



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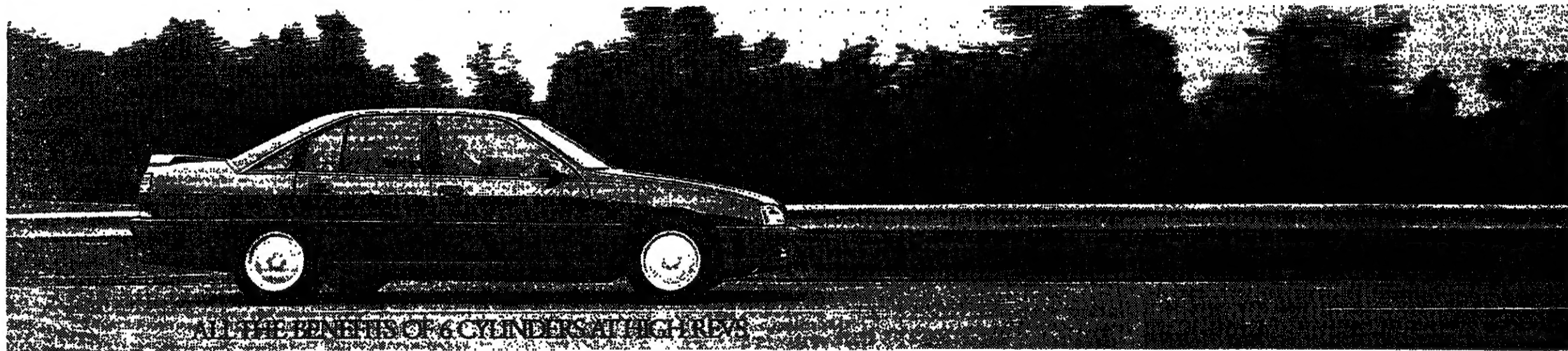
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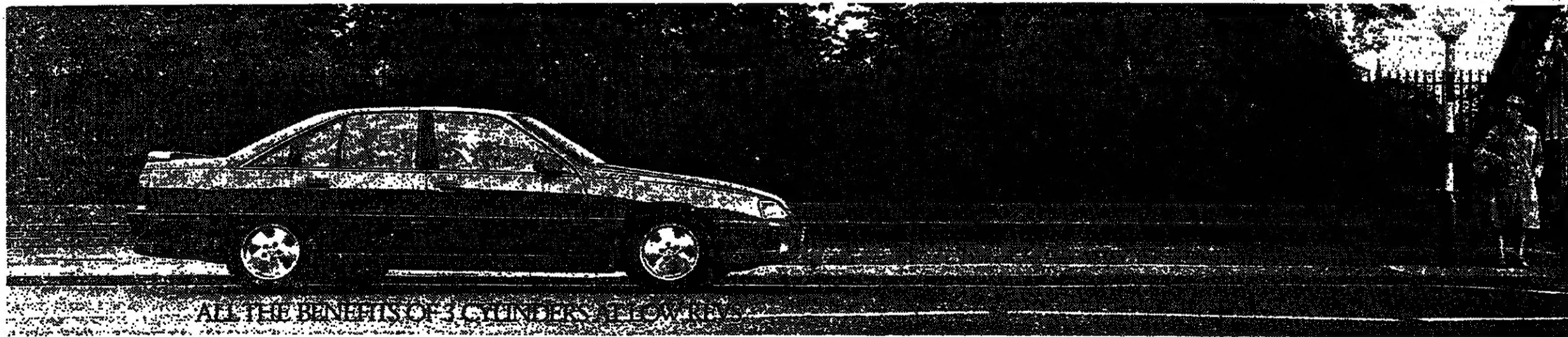
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دليل في ليله

Labour predicts big teacher shortage when term begins

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

LABOUR estimated yesterday that about 130,000 pupils will return to school this week without a properly qualified permanent teacher in front of their class.

Jack Straw, the shadow education secretary, told a Westminster press conference that a survey for the Labour party of local education authorities confirmed a rise in resignations by demoralised teachers resulting in 6,500 vacancies in state schools at the start of the new school year.

After hearing the survey's findings John MacGregor, the education secretary, said on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme that the level of teacher vacancies was broadly comparable to the level under the last Labour administration in 1979. "Mr Straw made the same accusations last year. They just proved to be untrue," he added.

While there were problems in London with recruiting and retaining teachers, the vacancy rate outside London was running at about 1.3%, he said. Mr Straw said that the rising trend in vacancies had been confirmed by the education department's own figures published in January, which showed about 6,500 unfilled posts.

The Labour party survey is based on questions to 30 out of the 112 English and Welsh education authorities, representing a regional and political cross-section. The survey found that although resignations at primary schools had gone down slightly over the past year, there had been a rise in

resignations of secondary school teachers from 14,400 in 1989 to 15,500 this year. Most authorities commented on problems recruiting this summer and the decline in "quality" applicants.

Kent county council reported: "A market research sample of teachers who had left showed low morale and disenchantment with bureaucratic overload from education department initiatives." Barnet council in north London blamed "disenchantment" based on low morale and stress over the reforms.

Mr Straw said: "John MacGregor must now say whether, at long last, he is ready to guarantee that no child would be without a properly qualified teacher in front of his or her class. His failure so far to give this guarantee makes a mockery of children's and parents' rights to education."

The reliance on overseas teachers to fill some teacher shortages was a national humiliation. He added that there was a "simply terrifying" wastage of newly trained teachers. Out of every 100 entrants to teacher training, only 34 remained in teaching five years after qualification.

The education department yesterday launched its own survey of teacher vacancies as most local authorities predicted that they would be fully staffed (John O'Leary writes). Mr MacGregor promised a national picture by the end of the week.

The department's January survey showed a 30 per cent increase in vacancies in two years with a 5.3 per cent

vacancy rate in greater London. Mr MacGregor says the national vacancy rate of 1.8 per cent is low compared with other professions.

The debate over unfilled vacancies is an annual one between the political parties, and most educationists accept that, statistically, both sides are right. While Mr Straw's figures may have been accurate last month, the efforts made in the past few weeks by local education authorities will have filled many of the vacant posts.

However, many classes will be taught by temporary or part-time staff, and most of the large number of overseas recruits will return home at the end of the school year. Thus the argument that classes will not be taught by "properly qualified permanent teachers" is also true.

Most vacancies yesterday were in primary schools, with Hackney, in east London, the worst affected. It is seeking 54 primary teachers, 26 staff for secondary schools and six for special schools. Its term begins today and the authority has been arranging temporary cover to try to ensure no children are sent home.



Eleanor Dale, a countryside warden, taking part in North West Water's count of birds at its Hollingworth reservoir, which was built in the last century near Rochdale, Lancashire. North West Water is to study the

116-acre lake to discover the number of wildfowl and wading birds using it (Ronald Farrer writes). It is one of 290 sites to be studied over the next year in the first such study of bird life among water companies. The work

will be done by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust to discover how wildlife co-exists with recreational activity. The lake, a feeder for the Rochdale Canal, is a busy recreational centre for east Lancashire

and attracts annually 130,000 sailing enthusiasts, fishermen, bird-watchers and other visitors. The information gathered will allow North West Water to manage the reservoir in a way that best suits its wildlife.

First student loan already under way

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

STUDENTS should have to wait only three weeks for loans under the government's new scheme, the company administering it promised yesterday. The first application, from a London university student in France for the year, is already being processed.

The Student Loans Company, based in Glasgow, which yesterday launched a £350,000 publicity campaign to explain how the scheme works, expects 85 per cent of eligible students to apply in its first year. That would mean a total payout of about £200 million to 500,000 students.

Students on designated courses will need only a bank or building society account and a certificate of eligibility from their college to qualify for a loan of between £240 and £460. They will be paid by bank transfer and will have to sign a direct debiting instruction for repayment before being given a loan.

Ron Harrison, managing director of the company, said: "We now have a trained staff of 108, fully equipped offices and what is almost certainly the world's most advanced computer system for handling student loans. It will be unique among student loan schemes because it combines universality of entitlement, a highly subsidised interest rate and repayment arrangements

linked to income." The computer system would keep collection costs to a minimum. The company would pursue defaulters through the courts in Britain and, if an economic proposition, abroad.

"Like any bank or financial institution, we will actually use every aid within the law to recover bad debts," Mr Harrison said. "I have a responsibility to recover taxpayers' money, which is being lent on very preferential terms."

Repayments will begin in April 1992 and the company has allowed for a 10 per cent default rate at first. Mr Harrison, who has 30 years' experience in lending and collection businesses, said that he took an optimistic view on defaulting because the British tended to have a conscientious approach to repayments.

Students will be able to apply for a loan at any time during the academic year and may opt to receive a lump sum or payments in two or three instalments. Interest will be added each year at the rate of inflation for the previous year. Repayments will be deferred if a graduate's gross income falls below a set sum, which this year would be £965 a month.

A telephone helpline to provide information is being operated on 0345 300900.

TUC report, page 6

Woman gives a clue on 'vanishing lady'

By JOHN SHAW

A POSSIBLE solution to the mystery of the "vanishing lady" emerged unexpectedly yesterday on the eve of the £250,000 auction of contents at Sutton Brilles Manor near Banbury, in Oxfordshire.

Muriel Keyte, who lives in Devon, arrived at the pre-sale viewing and told surprised Sotheby's executives that she was the only child of Robert Allen, a wealthy corset manufacturer who died in 1963. Mr Allen's wife, Dorothea, died aged 89 in January. She did not leave a will and her £1 million estate is being sold on the instructions of the Treasury. The house contents will be auctioned tomorrow.

Before she died, Mrs Allen destroyed anything that might give a clue to her past, including her husband's will,

thus leading to her being described as the "vanishing lady". Officials have been trying unsuccessfully for months to trace a relative who might be an heir to the house and its antiques. It is now thought likely that these will go to the Treasury.

Mrs Keyte, aged 73, said she was not a blood relative of Mrs Allen and therefore her chances of inheriting the property were "pretty remote, but it has been immensely interesting to find out about my father after all these years".

She said her father had been called Eric in Sheffield but Robert in Banbury. She believes this was because the second "marriage" was bigamous; if discovered, he would probably have gone to prison. She told an extraordinary story of her father's desertion in 1921, stemming from the change in his character when he returned from army service in India. Her mother, who died 11 years ago, had built a new life.

Sotheby's took Mrs Keyte on a tour of the manor. She nearly broke down when she saw two minor pictures not included in the auction. No one knew the identity of the subject but she recognised it immediately as her father. The firm has given them to her and she said last night she would keep them "as a little memento of the past".



Dorothea Allen: detail from a wedding portrait

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TRADES UNION CONGRESS: BLACKPOOL

Union power over Labour party growing, Howard says

By NICHOLAS WOOD IN BLACKPOOL
AND JOHN WINDER

THE trade unions wield more power in the Labour party than ever, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said yesterday as the Conservatives sought to take the gloss off TUC backing for Neil Kinnock's more moderate approach to union law.

Drawing on a new Conservative Central Office report on Labour's links with the unions, Mr Howard sought to portray the Opposition's reforms as cosmetic and union backing for them as cynical and fraudulent.

The small print of Labour's latest policy statement would restore secondary action and the flying picket, give unions unprecedented legal immunities and neuter the powers of the courts to punish unions that broke the law. Far

from curbing the unions, the Opposition proposals did not amount to a "a row of beans", Mr Howard said. The TUC leadership's endorsement of Labour's apparent acceptance of much of the legislation of the past decade was a "cynical electoral trick", he added at a press conference in London.

For 11 years the Conservatives had been putting their beliefs into action in what had come to be known as conviction politics, but the debate at Blackpool would provide another taste of the Labour answer: camouflage and cover-up politics, in which they tried to keep hidden as much as possible of what they believed to trick people into trusting Labour with their vote.

Labour policy would "make Ron Todd and Arthur Scargill laugh all the way to the picket line".

Norman Willis, the TUC general

secretary, rejected Mr Howard's assault as ill-tempered and intemperate and said the employment secretary should welcome the TUC debate on employment law. "As a politician, he might, of course, feel that the trade unions are moving in a direction that he will find difficult to sneer at, but that's his problem."

Ken Gill, the general secretary of MSF, the white-collar manufacturing union, said that relying on central office to produce an objective assessment of the unions was "like putting Dracula in charge of the blood transfusion service". He added that Labour's proposals would do no more than bring Britain barely up to minimum international standards.

The strength of Mr Howard's attack is an indication of Tory concern that Labour's policy-makers and media advisers have stolen some of Margaret Thatcher's clothes and blurred Labour's

electorally damaging image as an agent of union power. Offering a foretaste of the next general election campaign, the employment secretary's broadside also signalled the Conservatives' determination to continue to portray their rivals as in the pockets of the unions.

The central office report maintains that the unions' domination of finance, personnel and policy means that they "effectively run the Labour party". About 140 Labour MPs, more than half the parliamentary party and the highest proportion since 1935, are sponsored by unions under arrangements that allow them to pay the bulk of MPs' election expenses and agents' salaries. Of the shadow cabinet, 18 of the 20 members are sponsored by trade unions, and they choose 12 of the 29 members of the party's ruling national executive committee (NEC). About three-quarters of

Labour's money comes from the unions and the planned reform of the block vote after the next election will still leave them controlling 70 per cent of the votes at the Labour conference.

Mr Howard said: "The report demonstrates that the unions wield more power in the Labour party today than ever before. Neil Kinnock's much trumpeted constitutional reforms will barely scratch the surface of union domination of his party, and will not even take effect until after the next election. This is why, however, many tough words Neil Kinnock employs (in his speech to the conference today), he knows the unions would call the shots under a Labour government."

The central office report accuses Labour of opposing all the union reforms introduced by the government since 1979 and of not challenging a single

strike in recent years. Quoting from *Looking to the Future*, Labour's policy document, it points out that sympathy strikes would be allowed where there was a direct interest between two groups of workers, and that Labour has set no specific limit to the number of pickets allowed during a dispute. Labour's plans to restrict the powers of the courts to sequester union funds and to stop employers winning injunctions to halt a strike are also attacked.

However, a Labour spokesman said it was untrue to suggest that the NEC had not accepted a statutory limit on the number of pickets. The policy review specified that there should be statutory limit. The party's code of conduct applied a limit of six pickets and since there was a limit in law at present, and Labour did not intend to change that, there was no point in specifying it.

Party delight at backing for jobs law package

By TIM JONES AND PETER MULLIGAN

LABOUR leaders hailed TUC backing for the party's revised employment law package last night as laying to rest the ghost of the militant industrial disruption that contributed to the defeat of the last Labour government.

Tony Blair, shadow employment spokesman said that yesterday's debate at the TUC in Blackpool had cleared the way for a new agenda in the Nineties concerned with skills, training, equal opportunities and a constructive partnership with business.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, dismissed the debate as irrelevant and maintained that, whatever the public posture adopted by the TUC leadership and the Opposition, Labour remained wedded to restoring to the unions all their old powers.

After a passionate and at times stormy debate, the conference voted by 4,404,000 to 3,529,000 to defeat a motion by the National and Local Government Officers' Association which demanded the repeal of all anti-union legislation and the restoration of secondary picketing.

Opening the debate, Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, asked delegates to endorse a new settlement, based on fairly balanced rights

and responsibilities. Warning delegates against nostalgia, he said: "In the harsh light of the Nineties the yearning for old immunities does not amount to a policy. It is more like a cry for help."

"It is just not sensible to give any impression that we are asking for the law when we have the chance to obtain something we did not have in the Seventies and we need desperately today, that is the chance to have the trade union movement within a fair system of law. The law is part of our future."

He said they would not get the consent and commitment from members "if we imply that we want to take away their right to a ballot on crucial issues like strikes and the election of union leadership. That won't wash and it won't win."

Of an open-ended right to take secondary action, he said: "I just do not believe that would be accepted in the court of public opinion, and that means our members' opinions too."

He added: "We cannot pre-occupy ourselves with this issue for ever. Today is the day to settle the matter. The fudge shop is locked and shuttered and it is closed for the season."

Tony Young, general sec-



Waiting his turn: Arthur Scargill, NUM leader, sitting at the back of the conference hall yesterday

retary of the National Communications Union, said: "No Labour government could be elected with a commitment to return to the way things were in 1979. No union should ask it for such a commitment."

He called for the retention of ballots for the election of union leaders which were seen to have given democratic

accountability to union members. Unrestricted sympathy action was unacceptable to the public.

Brenda Dean, general secretary of Sogat, said that the next government would be a Labour government "if we play our cards right and we do not spoil our chances".

Tony Dubbins, general sec-

retary of the NGA, moving a resolution in conflict with the TUC leadership backed the right of union members to take "solidarity action" in support of their brothers caught up in a separate dispute. He had deep reservations about some of the proposals from the TUC general council which were damaging and naive.

It was not surprising, he said, that Tory employers attacked the closed shop, but delegates were entitled to insist on support from the general council. "The general council have lost their way by advocating the trade union movement pick up the tab for free riders. Despite the wailing voices urging 'don't rock the boat', adapt a low profile for the sake of public relations, we do nobody a favour by endorsing faint-hearted policies."

There was loud applause when he told the congress: "Some of us are beginning to sound like Margaret Thatcher: solidarity is all right in Poland but apparently no longer in the UK."

Alan Jinkinson, general secretary of Nalco, said that many proposals by the Labour party on employment law ran counter to long-standing trade union beliefs. They were being asked to stand on their heads.

He said: "We have as great an interest in securing the return of a Labour government as any other union and our private polling indicates that our members will vote accordingly. But we do not believe, and we have opinion research behind us, that a robust defence of trade union

rights in any way jeopardises that goal."

He cited a document from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, on whose board Norman Willis sits, that backed supportive action without restriction. He said: "We cannot accept that, under a Labour government, the UK will be bracketed with South Africa and South Korea as an international pariah on this issue."

Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said that support for the Labour party and the TUC general council on this issue would betray all the principles they had fought for.

After loud applause, he reported to delegates that Norman Willis, sitting on the platform behind him, had shouted "rubbish". Mr Scargill added: "He should know".

In a reference to the *Daily Mirror's* allegations of financial improprieties in his union, he added: "First I have got Maxwell (against me) and now another sumo wrestler behind me."

Time and again they had been told not to rock the boat and to go for electorally acceptable policies. But ditching principle in that way was a recipe for disaster.

Any attempt by a Labour government to retain sequestration of union funds would prevent trade unionists taking action in support of their fellow workers.

Leading article, page 11

Standards 'under threat from foreign teachers'

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE leader of Britain's biggest teachers' union is expected to warn delegates at the TUC conference today that educational standards are threatened by the government's policy of encouraging local education authorities to overcome staff shortages by hiring teachers from the Continent.

Commenting on a Labour survey suggesting that there would be 6,500 teacher vacancies this month at the start of the new school year, Douglas McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that numbers were only part of the problem.

NUT members and parents were rightly worried whether teachers imported from countries such as Denmark, other European Community states, and Australasia were properly equipped to fill the gaps in British classrooms. The Association of London Authorities has estimated that 30 per cent of new vacancies are being filled from abroad.

Mr McAvoy said that he was not questioning the ability of foreign teachers. He and his members, however, were concerned whether they had the right levels of qualifications, training, and experience to adapt to the British educational system. There were also doubts about the level of their long-term commitment to their pupils.

Mr McAvoy said that initial figures reaching the NUT from regional offices broadly confirmed the message of the Labour survey. The survey found that 130,000 children would start the school year

without a permanent, properly qualified teacher.

He suggested that teachers recruited from abroad might be given crash courses in the British educational system to help them to cope with what could prove unfamiliar practices and expectations. NUT officials said that Mr McAvoy would return to the subject today when he speaks in a debate on education and training.

Speaking in Blackpool, Mr McAvoy said: "I do not suggest that European teachers are incompetent. But in some cases I do believe that they are not trained for the job they are being asked to do. That may be because they have been asked to teach a subject for which they have not got a high enough qualification or it may be they are being used in an education system for which they are not prepared."

"Without questioning the ability of teachers from other European countries in terms of their ability to teach, there is a fear among members that they are not trained with the ethos of our educational system in mind, that they are not fully conversant with our methods, and that they are not fully conversant with the expectations of parents or the community."

"Equally, there is no guarantee of their continued commitment to our schools."

"So, more than last year, there is a fear being expressed that this short-term expedient of the government and local authorities to look to imports to cover the vacancies is not really the way to staff an education service."

Britain 'may become tourist theme park'

BRITAIN could degenerate into an "old English theme park" under another Tory government, Jo Richardson, MP, said in an address to the congress on behalf of the Labour Party.

She said that only 38 per cent of the country's workforce had skilled vocational training. That was lower than in Spain (56 per cent), West Germany (67 per cent), Italy (79 per cent) and France (80 per cent).

Ms Richardson, chairman of the Labour party National Executive Committee, said that the paucity of royal family events, Royal Ascot and Henley, would delight the tourists.

However, the tourists would have to be kept away from the sight of "tens of thousands sleeping in bed-and-breakfast slums and in cardboard boxes and the old people waiting in pain for three years for hip operations and children under-taught in

outdated schools with a shortage of teachers and books."

She said that Labour was still riding high in the polls and expressed her belief that the party would win the next general election.

Trade union membership fell by nearly 3 per cent last year, Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, told the congress. "That is far too much."

He urged delegates not to use, as an excuse for falling membership, the decline in full-time employment, the rise in part-time and temporary jobs and the redrawing of the industrial map. This was an opportunity.

He cited an opinion poll showing that 80 per cent of the public believed that trade unions were essential to protect workers' interests. Mr Willis added: "It is great to see so many people speaking up for trade unions. What we have got to do is to get a lot more of them paying up."

Male, white, middle-aged image attacked

By PETER MULLIGAN

SHARP criticism of the trade unions' membership profile was voiced by Ada Maddocks when she delivered the president's address at the opening of the congress.

Urging that recruitment should be a top priority, she called for renewed efforts to change the image of the movement which, she said, was still "male, middle aged to elderly and white".

She was speaking against a background of falling union membership since Margaret Thatcher became prime minister: from 12 million in 1979 to under 8.5 million now, the lowest for 26 years.

Miss Maddocks, the fifth woman to hold the office of president in the TUC's 122-year history, told delegates that women were grossly under-represented at all levels in the trade union movement.

She said: "We need more women shop stewards, more women on union executives, more women in the delegations to the congress, but, perhaps most important of all, more women in the negotiating arena."

She reminded the audience that the congress was the "face" of the trade union movement which would be judged by their actions.

She urged them to speak in words that

could be widely understood — "not the language of the rule book or even the composite motion but in clear and simple terms."

Miss Maddocks, a senior Nalco official, whose speech was applauded warmly, also identified causes for optimism by trade union members after the Eighties which, she said, had been a difficult decade.

"We survived and I am confident that in the new mood of the Nineties the opportunities are there for us to prosper. All the polls show that it is our ideals and our values which remain deeply rooted within the public's mind."

She said that the movement did not have a blank cheque. It was having to look closely at its priorities and at how best to spend the money provided by members. She added: "We are having to make hard choices. That a course of action is desirable will not be enough. From now on we must decide our priorities on the basis of what is the best use of resources."

Attacking government policies, she singled out health service reforms and described the prime minister and Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, as the "twin vultures" ready to devour the National Health Service. She said: "No ministerial videos, no publicity stunts and certainly no amount of junk mail at the taxpayers' expense, will convince the

public that the health service is safe in their hands."

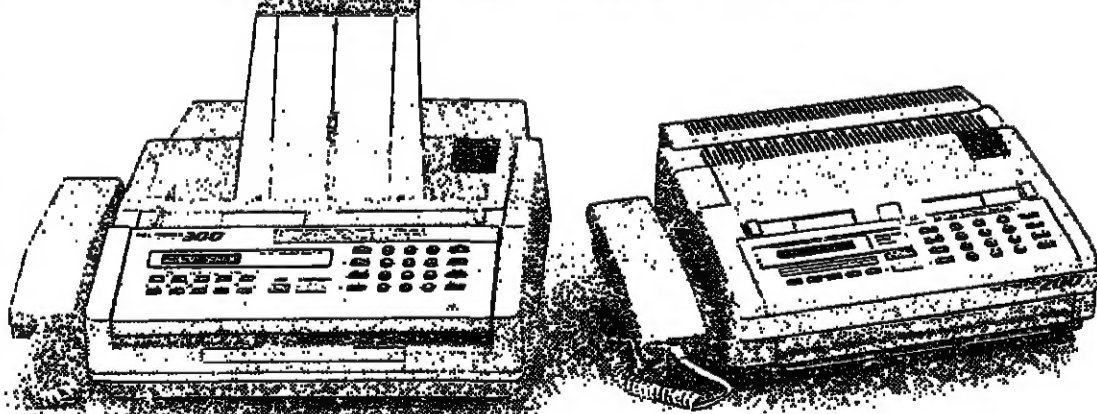
On training, she attacked the Conservatives on the ground of inadequate resources, a view, she said, that was shared by their friends in business. "Unless this government stops just making speeches about training and starts making sense", she said, "the economic future of this country is in jeopardy, and millions of individuals will find themselves in dead-end jobs in a dead-end Britain."

Miss Maddocks praised the European Community commissioners, whose proposals for a social charter are opposed by the government, for showing more sympathy and understanding for working people than the cabinet in the past 11 years.

"The government rant and rave about restraints on business and measures that will lead to unemployment", she said, "but people see through such free market propaganda. It is not hard to imagine a nineteenth-century Michael Howard (the employment secretary) arguing that banning children from climbing chimneys would cost jobs."

She added that the congress could well be the last before the next general election. Whatever its timing, she was sure that the prospect of returning a sympathetic government would never be far from their thoughts.

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مكتبة في لندن

Iceland tackles the 20th century ills that tarnish its clean image

From TONY SAMSTAG
IN OSLO

GREAT Geyser is old and tired. The original, spouting hot spring that gave its name to an entire genus of geothermal phenomena now performs only once in a while, and then only after having 100lb of soap stuffed down its gullet.

During a recent visit the tour lady announced with some satisfaction that Great Geyser had erupted just the previous day, one of only three occasions that year, to an audience of 10,000. The visitors smiled sheepishly, admired its vigorous little brother nearby, took care as instructed to step well clear of the boiling mud pools, and trooped back to the coach, which the driver was revving impatiently.

International interest in Iceland is like that. Very occasional, but intense and spectacular, well-primed with hundred-

weights of media studs, and never enough time to take it all in.

Remember the Cod Wars. Then, in 1986, it was the Reagan-Gorbachev summit that led to the rediscovery of little Iceland by the rest of the world.

Last year, the repeal of an 80-year ban on beer attracted large numbers of foreign journalists to the capital: most of them ended up interviewing each other because they had filled all the pubs and restaurants to the exclusion of the Icelanders.

The only other thing many people know about Iceland is that it has very few people and a whole lot of nature. For years, improbable numbers of tourists have flocked there, despite the cost of visiting one of the most expensive countries in the world, to view the harsh beauty of its primeval landscape in environmental conditions of gem-like

purity. Those days may now be numbered, according to the country's new environment minister.

Julius Solnes occupies a position that was created only last May (after a bruising political row in the Althing, the world's oldest parliament) because, as he has admitted disarmingly: "We Icelanders have unfortunately not progressed as far towards environmental consciousness as our Nordic neighbours."

With a quarter of a million people inhabiting Europe's least densely populated country, averaging two Icelanders for each third of a square mile, that is perhaps understandable. But profligate misuse of even such apparently boundless wilderness is beginning to exact a predictable price. Long stretches of the volcanic beaches around greater Reykjavik are now covered by cloacal sludge, a consequence of untreated effluents

released by a population of 130,000 straight into the fjord.

And, despite negligible pollution from power stations and factories which draw on large reserves of clean underground thermal energy and hydropower, an over-reliance on the internal combustion engine has brought episodes of serious smog to the once-pristine air of the capital.

A long-time mystery for visitors has been how a town the size of Reykjavik could conjure up traffic jams, let alone smog. The reasons, like almost everything in Iceland, are complicated but probably rooted in the chronically inflated economy — annual rates topped 130 per cent at one point during the 1980s — and the corresponding compulsion to overspend. A result is that Iceland has the second highest rate of car ownership in the world, almost 500 per

thousand and not far behind that of the United States. With so much untrammelled acreage to spread out in, Reykjavik has surrounded its tiny business centre with a vast, residential sprawl, leaving it about as pedestrian-friendly as Los Angeles.

Reluctantly, the authorities are now beginning to think in terms of emission standards for cars, sewage treatment plants, even a 1.8-mile-long outlet to carry the effluents further out into the fjord. And the first collection depot for hazardous wastes has now opened in Reykjavik.

The tourist industry thrives on Iceland's image as a clean country, while contributing to its decline, largely by adding to an apparently unstoppable process of soil erosion as the visitors tear across the fragile Arctic landscape in four-wheel-drive vehicles. Since man's

arrival in the late ninth century, Iceland has lost 35 per cent of its total cover and 96 per cent of its trees and shrubs. Soil conservation and reforestation schemes have proliferated since the appropriate government agency was created in 1907, but the forces of destruction continue to gain.

The destruction is not, as is widely believed, caused by volcanic activity. As Halldor Laxness, the Nobel Laureate has written: "Barren hillsides are the only permanent memorials the Icelanders have left behind after a millennium of settlement." Sigurdur Magnusson, a younger and less accomplished Icelandic author, adds: "Just as the goats and sheep of the Arab settlers of North Africa laid waste the former granary of the Roman Empire, so the Icelandic sheep — and to a lesser extent their horses — stripped the land bare..."

Indian forces set fire to town in reprisal for grenade attack

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN SPORE, KASHMIR

SHOPKEEPERS in the remote Kashmir market town of Sopore are rebuilding their lives after security forces went on a fire-raising rampage in reprisal for a hand-grenade attack by militant separatists.

Iqbal market, a maze of poor shops selling everything from shoes to cooking pots, was partly destroyed. A long row of shops in the main street was also burned down. "A two-day curfew was imposed. Security forces set fire to our premises and would not let the fire brigade come," one shop owner said. "The fire went on for nine hours. Firemen were allowed to come when we said one of the shops was owned by a Hindu, which was a lie."

The arson attack, on July 26, was carried out by the Central Reserve Police Force, a non-Kashmiri paramilitary body, that spearheads the security operation against militant Muslim separatists in the Kashmir valley.

Sopore's shopkeepers are not alone in feeling the wrath of the security forces. A Kashmiri human rights committee has sent a detailed report to Amnesty International that paints a picture of harsh and indiscriminate repression. The valley, says the report, "is passing through a nightmare".

The Jammu and Kashmir people's basic rights (protection) committee, headed by the former chief

justice of the state, says that each day brings more atrocities. It has details of many cases of rape, torture, beatings, arson and theft.

It points out that many Kashmiri detainees are held in jails outside the state among "hostile elements" — a reference to Hindus, most of whom bitterly resent the secessionist uprising in India's only Muslim-majority state. The committee said it had visited some prisoners who were held in cells 4ft by 6ft.

Residents of Sopore said they knew there would be trouble when militants threw hand grenades at a security patrol. A community leader said: "There is not a man, woman or child here who does not support the militants." He showed a long list of applications from businesses for compensation after the arson attack, but nobody seriously expects to be compensated. "If the owners of those premises weren't active militants before, they are now," he said.

Most of the 110,000 local Hindus, known as Pandits, have fled the Kashmir valley, and were encouraged to leave by the state government. They had dominated the state government, hospitals, banks, the insurance industry and pharmaceutical distribution. Their flight has therefore caused administrative chaos. Indian radio has reported that militants are ordering Sikhs to leave, which militant organisations deny.

On Dal Lake, Anchar Lake and the Jhelum river a thousand houseboats are deserted because the tourist industry has collapsed. A houseboat owner who says he has not paid the loan on his boat for more than a year, says the winter will be the hardest since the turmoil of partition in 1947. "We have no money for fuel to keep warm. We cannot afford to buy clothes. We must try to live on rice and perhaps a few green vegetables." Like many houseboat owners he has moved his boat on Dal Lake several times. "We have been told that if there is ever a militant attack from a houseboat, we will all be burned out. We live in fear that a militant will one day fire a single shot from a houseboat. If that happens, it will all be over for us," he said.

● SRINAGAR: Kashmiris staged a general strike yesterday in sympathy with government employees who went on strike to force the reinstatement of colleagues sacked for alleged involvement with Muslim militants. Army and paramilitary troops enforced a strict curfew.

Shops and businesses, hotels and restaurants were shut, and transport stayed off roads throughout the strife-torn Kashmir valley. Some 200,000 government employees began their five-day work boycott to force the reinstatement of their dismissed colleagues and press for a halt to alleged persecution of Muslims by security forces.

Employees have frequently alleged persecution by the Indian government in its drive against the Muslim separatists and have accused security forces of repressing innocent civilians. (AP)

● DELHI: The Indian government is to investigate charges of "excesses" by security men fighting Muslim secessionists, including allegations of rape or molestation. The upper house of parliament here meanwhile endorsed federal rule over Kashmir, replacing an administrative ordinance issued in July. The lower house approved the move last week. (AP)



An Indian soldier confronting women students demanding independence for Kashmir, in Srinagar, capital of the troubled state

Battle looms for Labour leadership in New Zealand

From RICHARD LONG
IN WELLINGTON

NEW Zealand's governing Labour party was in trouble last night, only eight weeks before the general election, with Geoffrey Palmer, the prime minister, facing a leadership challenge from Mike Moore, the external relations and trade minister.

Mr Palmer is expected to put his leadership to the test at today's meeting of the Labour party caucus. Elected prime minister only a year ago, after David Lange's surprise resignation, he is blamed for a disastrous fall in the party's opinion-poll ratings.

Labour is consistently up to 30 points behind the opposition National party in the polls, with up to a third of the electorate undecided. Supporters of Mr Moore, one of the few Labour cabinet ministers from a working-class and trade union background, maintain he could attract back many of the party's disaffected trade-union voters. He received a boost yesterday with reports that Helen Clark, the deputy prime minister, backs his leadership bid.

Mr Moore's supporters are understood to have taken poll samples to yesterday's cabinet meeting to support their call for a change of leader before the October 27 election. Surveys have indicated that Labour could lose more than half its seats in New Zealand's 97-seat, single-chamber parliament, compared with its present 15-seat majority.

Mr Palmer said yesterday he would not resign, making it clear that any move to dislodge him would require an unprecedented no confidence vote by ministers against a prime minister.

East German police open fire to quell neo-Nazi riot

From REUTER IN LEIPZIG

POLICE in Leipzig fired at the legs of neo-Nazi East and West German soccer fans to quell a riot, injuring two of them, officials said yesterday.

Peter Heimann, a Leipzig police spokesman, said three officers fired in the air and then towards the legs of the fans on Sunday night after they were attacked with clubs and bottles and their patrol cars were wrecked. "They did it because they feared for their lives," he said.

Two fans were taken to hospital with leg wounds and 35 of the 150 rioters were held on charges of assault, he said. Knives, tear-gas canisters and blank cartridge pistols were confiscated. Five policemen were also hurt and two were treated in hospital.

The rioting was fanned through the centre of Leipzig after an exhibition game between Bayern Munich of the West German first division and Lokomotive Leipzig of the East German first league. Before the game up to 200 "skinheads, fascists (fascists) and youths in bomber jackets from East and West Germany marched through Leipzig shouting such neo-Nazi slogans as "sic heil" and "Heil Hitler", Herr Heimann said.

The shooting marked the first time police in East or West Germany had used firearms to break up disturbances by soccer fans. They had previously used water cannon and truncheons as a last resort. Soccer hooliganism has been frequent in East Germany — which is to merge with West Germany next month — since the fall of its communist regime last year.

In West Germany police reported that an estimated 40 fans of

the first-division side Cologne rampaged through the club offices and fan club after watching their team draw 2-2 with Borussia Munchengladbach on television on Saturday.

Furniture was smashed, club souvenirs stolen and windows broken during the violence by fans protesting against the policies of Dietmar Artzinger-Bollen, the club president. Police were called in to protect the premises and officials estimated the damage at about 30,000 marks (£10,000).

● EAST BERLIN: East German police officers will be investigated for links to the former communist state's Stasi secret police before being hired by West Berlin's force after unification, a senior Western official said yesterday.

Emil Paetzold, the interior min-

ister, said all East German police would need to pass a test for Stasi links before joining the force after the two Germanies merge on October 3. "We will demand a comprehensive statement of his previous path in life, an open acknowledgement of whatever contacts he had with the Stasi, and then we'll have to weigh the information," he told the East German *Der Morgen* newspaper.

The newspaper said East Berlin's city police force had served as a political tool of the communist leadership overthrown by a democratic revolution in 1989.

It quoted a report by a committee overseeing the dissolution of the Stasi which said the secret police had used the regular police "for its own interests like a kind of service enterprise".

Cambodia arms supplies cut off

From REUTER IN PEKING

CHINA and the Soviet Union have undertaken to stop arming Cambodia's warring factions and have said they will welcome the exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk as head of a post-civil war interim administration, the *People's Daily* reported yesterday.

Quoting a Chinese statement after Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, and Qian Qichen, his Chinese counterpart, met in the northeastern Chinese city of Harbin at the weekend, it said: "Both sides maintained that all Cambodian factions should, within the scope of a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian issue, effect a ceasefire, and that China and the Soviet

Union will cease providing military aid to all Cambodian factions. Both sides called on other countries concerned to adopt a similar position."

The newspaper added that both sides would welcome Prince Sihanouk as head of an interim administration.

● BANGKOK: Cambodian guerrillas have moved at least 60,000 refugees from camps in Thailand back into Cambodia and some have died from disease as a result, Western aid officials said yesterday.

Most of the refugees were from camps run by the Khmer Rouge, a senior aid official said. The others were from a camp controlled by

the forces of Prince Sihanouk. (AP)

● PEKING: Mongolia's first popularly elected legislature convened for the first time yesterday and re-elected Punsalmaagin Ochirbat as president, a source in Ulan Bator said (AP reports).

The session was lively and animated, the source said. "Everyone really felt free to get up and speak their piece, and did so," he said in a telephone interview.

Mr Ochirbat was nominated by the head of the communist party, called the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party. His nomination was seconded by the Social Democratic Party, an opposition party, the source said. (AP)

Ben Bella to return from exile

Geneva — Ahmed Ben Bella, Algeria's first president, will return home on September 27 after nine years in exile. Mohammed Lehouari, a close associate, said yesterday that he would sail from Barcelona to Algiers.

Mr Ben Bella, aged 73, set up his own political party, the Movement for Democracy in Algeria, which was legalised last March. He was toppled in a coup led by the late Colonel Houari Boumedienne in 1965 and went into exile in France and Switzerland in 1980 after spending 15 years under house arrest in Algeria. (Reuters)

Hong Kong exodus

Hong Kong — The government here predicted a tidal wave of emigration this year, saying that 62,000 people will leave compared to 42,000 last year. It admitted for the first time that its earlier estimate of 55,000 emigrants after the Tiananmen Square killings had become unrealistic.

Refugee plight

Jerusalem — More than a hundred poor Ethiopian Jews waiting in Addis Ababa for passage to Israel have died in the past month. Mesfin Ambaw of the Ethiopian immigrant association, said: "They are without food, housing and it is winter in Ethiopia." (Reuters)

Seeking friends

Belgrade — President Iliescu of Romania, ostracised by Western leaders, has arrived in Yugoslavia for his first official foreign visit. He said the visit marked the start of personal contacts with leaders of other states. (Reuters)

Pakistan verdict

Islamabad — The Supreme Court overturned charges of nepotism against Ahsan ul-Haq Piracha, former finance minister in the government of Benazir Bhutto, the dismissed prime minister. (AP)

Somalia sacking

Mogadishu — President Siad Barre of Somalia has sacked the government of Muhammad Samatar, the prime minister. Muhammad Samatar has been appointed his successor. (Reuters)

Tamil town falls

Colombo — Hundreds of government troops backed by helicopter gunships and naval gunboats wrested control of Mullaitivu town in the north from rebels of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, officials said. (AP)

Storm brews over television casting of white as Aboriginal

From ROBERT COCKBURN
IN SYDNEY

GRUNDY Entertainment, the makers of *Neighbours* and other Australian television soap operas, are stirring up a racial storm with their latest series.

The company, which made celebrities of Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan, has found a new bombshell, a blond Aussie beach icon called Cameron Daddo, to play Boney, an Aboriginal detective complete with mystical powers.

Equity, the actors' union, and Aboriginal groups are furious at the casting of a white in the role of television's traditional black detective. Yesterday the union threatened protests when the show is given its premiere here next week on the

Seven Network. Equity is organising a new campaign to break the predominantly white image portrayed by Australia's commercial stations.

Parallels are being drawn with the controversy over the musical *Miss Saigon*, in which Jonathan Pryce, the Welsh actor, was barred from repeating his London success in the leading role of a Eurasian pimp on Broadway. But the snub to Aboriginal actors in casting Boney as a white goes much deeper in a country still deeply divided racially.

Boney, a two-hour pilot film, is a remake of a 1960s television show of the same name. The original fictional Boney was a full-blooded Aboriginal with the power to solve mysteries white policemen could not begin to fathom. In those days,

with the white Australia policy at its height, James Lawrence, a blacked-up New Zealander, got the job. Now even the pretence of make-up has gone. The new Boney is a part-Aboriginal descendant, one-third-black, according to Grundy's scriptwriters who could thus provide him with a white skin while allowing him to inherit all the Aboriginal powers vital to the story.

The formula will now be marketed world-wide. Liz Harvey, Grundy's spokeswoman, said last week that the main television companies had been approached in Britain, where *Neighbours* does so well.

In his early twenties, Cameron Daddo is the former host of *A Perfect Match*, a

brash television game show in which Australian couples reveal their bedtime activities to a studio audience. His detractors say he is even more wooden than Jason Donovan. Liz Harvey insists, however, that "he's absolutely gorgeous on screen". But she admits that Grundy did not audition Aboriginal actors.

"We consider Cameron a fine young actor who will bring the needs and aspirations of our Aboriginal people to our screens," Miss Harvey said. "A lot of Aboriginals today are white. Cameron portrays all the Aboriginal skills of his ancestors. He's got the sixth sense."

● Hollywood parallel: A Hollywood watchdog group for American Indians has questioned Robert Redford's decision to cast Lou Diamond Phillips in the leading role of a Navajo policeman in Redford's

new film. Phillips has been selected to play Jim Chee in a film based on Tony Hillerman's novel, *The Dark Wind*. Redford plans soon to begin filming on the Navajo and Hopi reservations.

Ray Louis, a high school drama teacher in Crystal, New Mexico, said: "They've been promising for years to cast Navajos in leading roles. But they always end up with an Italian or a foreign-born." Bonnie Paradise, director of the American Indian Registry for the Performing Arts watchdog group in Hollywood, said she would shortly meet both Redford and Phillips. She said Phillips claimed to be part American Indian, but had not provided any documentation. (AP)

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

Iraq factor comes to the rescue of beleaguered Republicans

FROM CHARLES BREMMER
IN WASHINGTON

WHEN he returned to the Oval Office after his much-interrupted golfing holiday yesterday, President Bush took heart from one piece of good news: according to the polls, events in the Gulf have all but demolished the political liabilities that only a month ago loomed over his presidency and threatened to propel Democrats into Republican seats in the November mid-term elections.

over the Savings and Loans collapse, Mr Bush had been suffering the first big slump in his popularity.

A series of potentially damaging episodes lay in wait this month, such as the appearance before a congressional committee of his son Neil, to face questions on his role in the collapse of a Denver bank. The Democrats were also hoping to land a few punches with the Senate hearings on the appointment of David Souter, Mr Bush's nominee to the Supreme Court. And there was much capital to be made from the staggering economy and the president's expected climb-down on raising taxes as a necessary evil for the new budget.

On top of that, the Democrats were busy focusing the electorate's thoughts on abortion, education and the other

social issues on which they hold the political edge.

Now, to the delight of beleaguered Republicans, all those liabilities have paled in the shadow of America's biggest military foreign venture since Vietnam. The country believes overwhelmingly that Republicans are better equipped to handle such a crisis, according to a poll by *The New York Times* at the weekend. For the time being, Mr Bush, the man derided by opponents in 1988 as a wimp, can do little wrong. He enjoys the support of 80 per cent of the country with his handling of the Gulf, and even Democrats are competing with praise.

A senior adviser to the president said this week: "This crisis has cut off the potential negatives. It eliminates the possibility for Republicans having a bad

election this November." Barring a US debacle in the Middle East, the Republicans hope to cut to the minimum the number of seats they lose in the House and Senate and set the stage for an attempt in 1992 to win back the Senate and break the long-standing Democratic control of the House of Representatives.

Even on the economy, the Gulf appears to be working to the president's advantage by providing a villain for the hard times that many now see setting in. *The Wall Street Journal* found that the number expecting a recession leapt 32 points after the invasion. Already the pundits have baptised the downturn, long in the making, the "Saddam recession". Despite the cost of the military effort, the heat from the Gulf will probably help take the political sting out of the battle to be fought over

the next week on how to reduce the huge budget deficit. Congressional leaders have set a deadline of 10 September to reach an accord with the administration. Their negotiations are due to work all weekend at Andrews Airforce Base outside Washington.

The Democrats are determined to withhold agreement on anything that will raise taxes without an assurance that the president and Republican congressmen endorse it. If no plan is agreed by October 15, thousands of civil servants will be laid off and billions of dollars of spending will be halted.

The politicians are finding there is little mileage to be gained in questioning the president's decision to commit such a huge expeditionary force to Saudi Arabia. Only a handful of Democratic congressmen have voiced cau-

tion, and none has dissented so sharply as the anti-interventionist commentators of the right. The Democrats, it seems, have finally found a cause that they can use to put to rest the notion that they lack the fortitude to fight for American interests abroad, an image which has clung to them since Vietnam.

Candidates who assumed the new world order would let them lambast the Republicans on the economy are suddenly finding their martial credentials under scrutiny. Mario Cuomo, governor of New York, still the favourite of many for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992, is being forced to explain why he opted to defer his military service as a student during the Korean war.

Similar sensitivities explain why Dan Quayle, the vice-president, has been playing an

even less visible role than usual. His service with the National Guard rather than the military during the Vietnam war has been resurrected in the joke material of the talk show comedians.

But, while the patriotic fever still rages in America, Mr Bush and the Republicans are aware of the pitfalls that could obliterate their political windfall from the Gulf. If the crisis drags on for weeks with no action, and the television reports hammer home the plight of the hostages and the boredom of the troops, the Democrats will seize on the costs of the operation and press the president on his ultimate goals.

"Who's going to pay for it all?" asked Congressman William Dannemeyer, a California Republican. Les Aspin, the respected chairman of the House armed services com-

mittee, is planning to press the administration to state its objectives in hearings next week. "The American public does not object to deployment abroad. They do object when people are getting killed with no objective in sight," he said.

The latest polls this weekend show that support for the use of force is not nearly as strong as suggested. By a four-to-one majority, Americans want to await the results of sanctions and diplomacy. According to a *Wall Street Journal* poll, 43 per cent favour eventual military action if Iraq refuses to withdraw from Kuwait, compared with 42 who oppose it. The experts say the public would stand firmly with the president in the initial phase of any war, but support would erode rapidly if America were to suffer very high casualties.

SANCTIONS

Yemen gives Hurd a reluctant promise to apply UN trade curbs

FROM ANDREW MC EWE IN SANAA, YEMEN

YEMEN yesterday assured Britain that it would apply United Nations trade sanctions against Iraq, but made it clear that it was reluctant.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, who made a five-hour visit to Sanaa, appeared partly satisfied. "So far so good," he said.

His talks suggested that Yemen was not as weak a link in the international chain surrounding Iraq as had been feared. But it confirmed an impression that Yemen was an unwilling partner, applying sanctions because of international pressure rather than conviction. Talks between Mr Hurd and President Saleh were said to have been "extremely lively but not angry", reflecting the differences.

Mr Saleh acknowledged that there were differences but described them as "minor". However, he refused to apply sanctions on food on the ground that it was exempted by a humanitarian clause in Security Council Resolution 661. Britain does not accept this interpretation of the resolution, but officials said it was of little consequence because Yemen was not exporting food to Iraq.

Intelligence reports bore out adamant denials by Mr Saleh and by Haider Abu Bakr al-Attas, the prime minister, of sanctions breaking. They also refuted claims that Yemen had provided an air bridge to Baghdad, or had stored

Iraqi or Kuwaiti aircraft flown to its territories.

Several Iraqi tankers are docked in Aden, but have not unloaded their oil. One vessel, the *Ain Zafah*, had started unloading before the security council passed a resolution authorising the use of force to prevent evasion of sanctions. The Yemeni government then stopped the unloading.

Mr Hurd said that if Yemen showed it was suffering financial loss as a result of applying sanctions, the international community would have to consider aid. Mr al-Attas said that Sanaa had submitted details of its losses to the UN.

Yemeni officials appeared keen to retain good relations with Britain and accepted the presence of Douglas Gordon, the British consul-general in Aden, at talks between Mr Hurd and Abdul Karim al-Iryani, the foreign minister. Mr Gordon was ordered to leave the country two weeks ago, but Sanaa relented after protests from London. He is to depart on October 10, when his normal period of service ends.

Mr al-Attas said Mr Gordon had been ordered to leave because of activities which were "not normal", but did not say what these were. British officials believe the real reason for his expulsion was that Yemen was angered by remarks made by Tom King, the defence secretary, who implied

that Yemen was running an air bridge.

The sources added that the Yemeni government seemed reluctant to disclose to its own public the concessions it had made to international opinion, probably because of public sympathy for Iraq.

Asked whether he accepted or rejected Baghdad's claim that Kuwait was part of Iraq, Mr al-Attas replied that Yemen was opposed to the use of force. He refused to be more specific.

AMMAN: Jordan is continuing to receive daily oil supplies from Iraq despite King Hussein's assurance that Jordan will comply with United Nations trade sanctions against Iraq, Western diplomats said yesterday (Richard Owen writes).

But sources said the supplies were part of a loophole of which the United Nations was aware. "This is a bit of a grey area," one Western economist expert said. Yesterday, I watched Iraqi-registered oil tankers entering Jordan from Iraq by the overland border at a rate of two to three a minute. They returned to Iraq empty by the same route, through the Ruweished border post.

Diplomats said Jordan had notified the United Nations that it was entitled to continue receiving Iraqi oil as part of Iraq's repayment to Jordan of debts incurred during the Iran-Iraq war.

Invasion hits the world's poor

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

AS DELEGATES representing Iraq and pre-invasion Kuwait ignored each other yesterday at the start of an international conference here, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations secretary-general, and King Hussein of Jordan arrived in Paris with little fanfare and less hope of a Gulf breakthrough.

Their arrival coincided with a warning from President Mitterrand, who later met both visitors, that France's economic prospects could be hit hard by the Gulf confrontation, necessitating "adaptation without delay".

Ironically, M Mitterrand and Señor Pérez de Cuéllar had gathered for the opening of the latest UN forum on the world's least developed countries, most of which are already suffering from

the increase in oil prices since the invasion of Kuwait.

By then, the UN secretary-general had already briefed Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, about the failure of his peace initiative. As Señor Pérez de Cuéllar conceded during an interview on French television, he had encountered "virtually no flexibility" on the part of Tariq Aziz, Iraq's foreign minister, during two days of discussion in Jordan.

As for King Hussein, arriving from London after what was reportedly a bruising session with Margaret Thatcher, there was scant prospect of a much warmer reception for his views in the Elysée Palace.

French policy now shows signs of siding with President Bush and Mrs Thatcher. Last weekend Mi-

chel Rocard, the French prime minister, said: "Europe would be deceiving itself greatly if it believed it could live on the unearned income of history, drawing the dividends of a peace that the US has maintained." It remains to be seen whether this represents a calculated retreat from views previously expressed in government circles which argued for a more restricted approach to Europe's response in the Gulf.

According to press reports here, there was disagreement between M Dumas and some of the eight other foreign ministers representing Western European Union members at their meeting in Paris a few days ago. The Dutch were said to have been insistent on greater co-ordination of military and diplomatic operations.

RECALL OF PARLIAMENT

Green and clean for the debate

By JOHN WINDER

REFURBISHED green cushions for MPs' seats were restored to their places yesterday so that the full complement of members expected for Thursday's debate on the Gulf may sit as accustomed. The cushions were being cleaned and restitched.

Westminster staff is working hard to restore the houses, which are undergoing maintenance work during recess, to normal. Furniture is being moved back into place as decorators finish work or reach an appropriate point for a two-day pause, while both houses go back into action.

The government whip's office is being relocated, as work there cannot be easily interrupted and the facilities restored to normal working conditions.

Catering staff will return to provide food and drink. However, members will have to share facilities with reporters, whose cafeteria and bar will both be out of action after power was cut in the course of repair work. It cannot be restored until next month, when the Commons returns to clear up the routine business of the session.

The Commons catering department said yesterday it was hoped to offer an almost-full service, but one or two catering points would not operate.

In the press gallery, where more than 200 journalists operate, several organisations have had normal access cut off because of work on ventilation and renovation on communications systems. The



Roger Holman works on refurbishing the Commons benches

Press Association news agency will continue to work from temporary premises behind the press gallery, as it has done for several weeks.

This year, the Commons maintenance work is more obvious than in the past. Part of the structure over the Commons chamber is being re-roofed, making corners of Westminster look more like a builder's yard.

Preliminary work is taking place on the conversion of the Speaker's secretary's flat into space for MPs, and large-scale heating and electrical work is underway.

Staff is anxious that, having stopped contractors in the middle of their task, it may take a day or more for work to start up again. It needs to be complete by October 15 when the Commons returns from recess.



Mrs Thatcher with the Crown Prince of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, at 10 Downing Street yesterday.

EAST-WEST DETENTE

Big power links unharmed

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet foreign ministry denied yesterday that superpower relations were under strain as a result of the Gulf confrontation. In Moscow's first formal response to the announcement that President Gorbachev and President Bush would meet next Sunday in Helsinki, Gennadi Gerasimov, the foreign ministry spokesman, said the short working meeting was the sort the two leaders had agreed to hold periodically, during their talks at Camp David in June.

At pains to emphasise that the

meeting was not a "summit" in the strict sense of the word, Mr Gerasimov said that President Gorbachev would take only a small team to Helsinki and that the agenda would not be fixed in advance. "There may be four or five people around the table."

The foreign ministry spokesman said that a commentary in the Communist party paper *Pravda* on Sunday which claimed that superpower detente would be destroyed if the United States took military action against Iraq repre-

sented the personal opinion of the commentator. He also denied earlier suggestions by the Warsaw Pact commander in chief, General Vladimir Lobov, that the US military presence in Saudi Arabia threatened to alter the balance of power in the Gulf region and could threaten the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna.

He said the Americans had gone to the Gulf "not on their own initiative" but because they were "provoked". On a possible link between agreement in Vienna and the American forces in the Gulf, Mr Gerasimov said: "I cannot see a connection. The Vienna talks are about forces in Europe and I see no direct link."

Mr Gerasimov's remarks on the US presence in Saudi Arabia differed sharply in tone from the implicit condemnation he had voiced a week before, on his return from holiday.

On Friday, President Gorbachev had carefully avoided suggesting any Soviet misgivings about the US build-up, insisting that its military presence in the region was only temporary and precipitated by Iraq's aggression against Kuwait.

On Soviet policy towards Iraq, Mr Gerasimov suggested that Soviet hopes of a rapid political solution had faded, given the failure of the UN secretary-general's talks with the Iraqi foreign minister.

He repeatedly emphasised, however, the sensitivity of the current Soviet position. Although the evacuation of women and children is complete, nearly 7,000 specialists remain there.

Mr Gerasimov said that so far Moscow had not made any requests to Iraq about withdrawing the specialists. It appears that the Soviet Union has deliberately not broached the question of whether they would be free to go, should Moscow decide to break their contracts.

LABOUR

Company 'should be closed'

By QUENTIN COWDRY
HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR yesterday called for an Iraqi-owned company in London to be closed immediately as the Pentagon accused the firm of surreptitiously acquiring nuclear technology for Baghdad.

The Pentagon says the Technology and Development Group of Chiswick, West London, is part of an extensive network of Iraqi-controlled front companies dedicated to acquiring the technical expertise and equipment to launch a nuclear programme. The company has reportedly denied that it is involved in military procurement for Baghdad.

Western intelligence agencies believe President Saddam Hussein intends to have nuclear weapons by the mid-1990s.

In a statement broadcast on BBC Television's *Panorama* programme last night, the US Department of Defence says the company is effectively controlled by the Baghdad-based Nassr State Establishment for Mechanical Industries, the power-house behind Iraq's defence industries. Other Nassr front companies have links with Iraq's chemical weapons programme, the department says.

Labour, which has been pressing ministers since May to investigate the company, last night called on Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, to shut down the firm for alleged breach of the United Nations arms embargo on Iraq.

Speaking on *Panorama*, Gordon Brown, shadow trade and industry secretary, said: "It is now clear that the Technology and Development Group is no ordinary company... Not only does it own companies within the UK but it is clearly operating as a procurement executive for Iraq to buy weapons worldwide."

MIDDLE EAST TRADE

Land-Rover launch goes ahead in Gulf

By KEVIN EASON

LAND-ROVER, the famous British maker of four-wheel drive vehicles, is to press ahead with the launch of its new model in the Middle East next week despite the conflict in the Gulf.

Company executives considered calling off their move into what could be a key export market, worth £40 million this year, after the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces.

One of the nations expressing most interest in the company's new Discovery four-wheel-drive vehicle was Kuwait, and Iraq had also been thought to be a possible lucrative market.

Both nations have now been struck from the launch pro-

gramme but executives from the Solihull company still expect to sell 2,000 vehicles in Middle Eastern states this year.

Chris Woodward, Land-Rover's commercial director, said that he was reassured by customer nations that the launch would not be affected by the Gulf situation. He said: "We were uncertain as to what to do but as most of our customers are some distance from Kuwait and Iraq, we decided to go ahead as planned into what will become a market to consolidate our spread of export interests throughout the world."

Land-Rover is now one of Britain's most successful exporters, sending more than 75 per cent of production abroad. In the first

six months this year, the company raised worldwide sales from 28,127 last year to more than 33,240.

The company is now on course to be one of the few car-makers in Britain which will increase both production and sales this year, with assembly lines expected to reach a record 70,000 vehicles, comprising the traditional four-wheel-drive Land-Rover, which has become a familiar vehicle in the Third World, and the new Discovery.

The company last week settled its largest order from the Ministry of Defence, worth £22 million for 1,690 diesel-powered Land-Rovers.

Discovery now outsells its

nearest Japanese rival by two to one in the UK while Range Rover sales are up 11 per cent here, 20 per cent in France, 49 per cent in Spain and 41 per cent in the US.

The company's success is in stark contrast to the rest of the British motor industry, struggling with a falling market, suffering from high interest rates and a lack of confidence among businessmen.

Even the normally buoyant August, when 20 per cent of all annual new car sales are made, have not been great enough to lift the gloom over the industry. Figures due to be announced tomorrow are expected to show a fall of sales last month of more than 11 per cent.

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: THE MIDDLE EAST

EVACUATION

Road convoy mooted to ferry Britons from Kuwait

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A HUGE road convoy to transport an estimated thousand, mostly British, women and children from Kuwait to Baghdad is under active consideration in London and the Gulf, Whitehall sources disclosed yesterday.

Conditions in Kuwait were seriously deteriorating, reports from the occupied city said. There was fighting every night between Kuwaiti resistance forces and Iraqi troops.

The plight of an estimated 7,000 Western and Japanese nationals, many of whom were in hiding, was becoming increasingly precarious. Iraqi troops were making house-to-house searches to locate foreigners.

While the Iraqi occupation force had threatened to shoot any Kuwaitis giving refuge to Westerners, the Kuwaiti resistance was issuing death threats to anyone who handed over foreigners to the Iraqis.

In these circumstances, the Whitehall sources said, the need to evacuate people was becoming more urgent. The prospect of organising an air-lift from Kuwait was virtually non-existent and all the 2,500 Britons, including the men, in the city would be able to obtain exit permits only in Baghdad.

Putting together a motor convoy to accommodate such a large number of passengers would present logistical problems at the best of times. The last British convoy from Kuwait to Baghdad, which brought out 112 diplomatic dependents and non-essential staff two weeks ago, took 26 hours to complete the journey. The distance is more than 500 miles along a road likely to be blocked by control points and busy with military and official traffic.

A Foreign Office spokesman advised British nationals in Kuwait for the moment to keep their heads down. He emphasised that as soon as there was any possibility of

evacuating them arrangements would be made.

William Waldegrave, a Foreign Office minister, is to broadcast a message to British nationals on the BBC's World Service. He will make it clear that they have not been forgotten, that strenuous efforts are being made to arrange their evacuation, and will also advise them that they should sit tight for the moment.

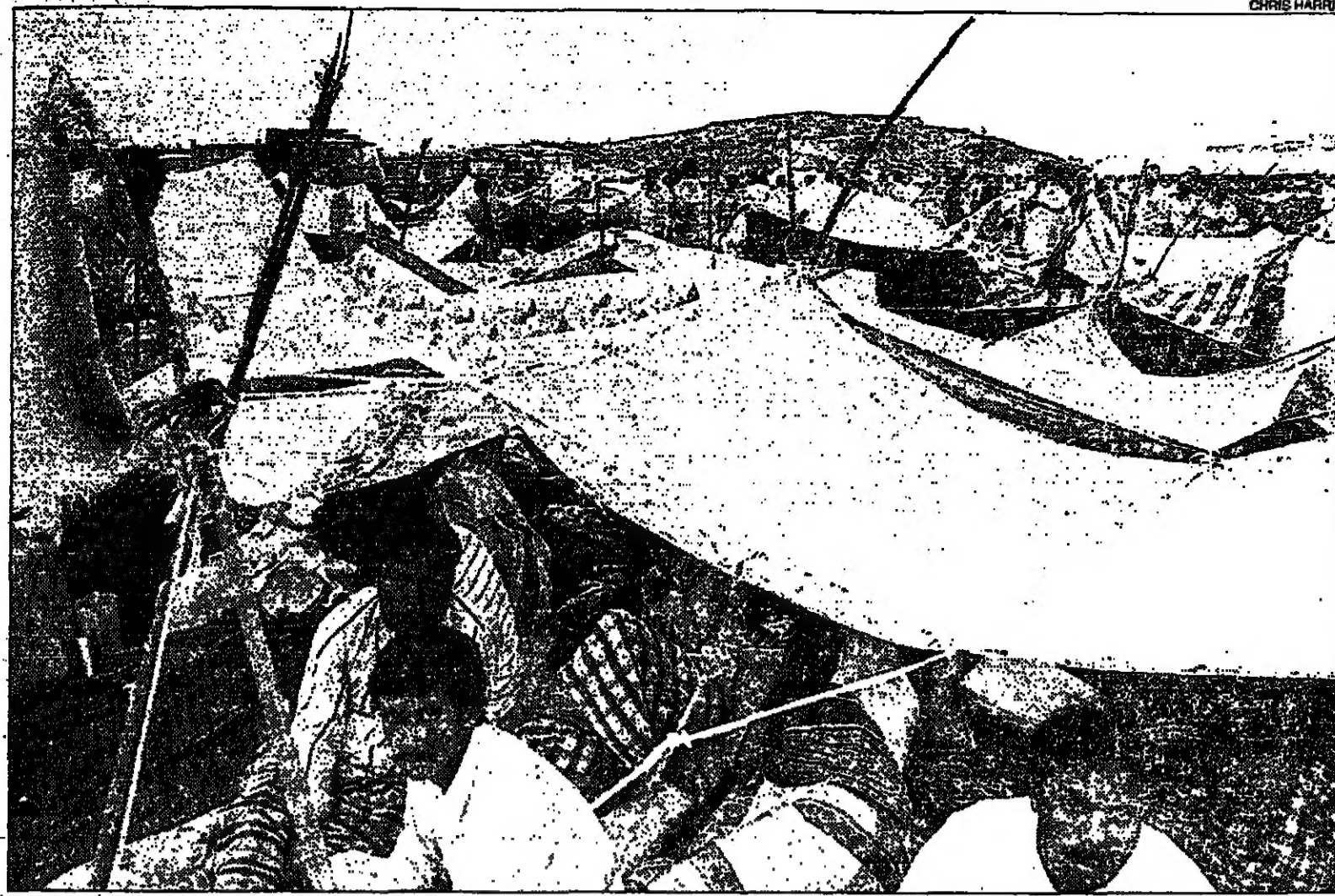
The Whitehall sources admitted that there was a possibility that those joining the convoy might be rounded up by the Iraqis in Baghdad but said the situation was so full of imponderables that escape by convoy was increasingly becoming the only realistic option.

Individuals would have to make their own decisions whether to risk joining the convoy or to remain in hiding in Kuwait, the sources said. But the impression gained from those who had been brought out of Iraq at the weekend was that most of those still in Kuwait would be prepared to risk joining such a convoy if it could be arranged as envisaged.

Harold Walker, the British ambassador in Baghdad, and his diplomatic staff were discussing the possibility of a road convoy with the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the Americans and with the other European Community diplomatic missions. Britain was taking the lead in exploring such an operation because the largest number of foreign nationals in Kuwait were British.

Officials are hoping to organise the convoy operation as soon as possible. But Iraqi acquiescence would be needed. The present estimate of the numbers who would wish to be evacuated is about a thousand.

To transport such a large number would probably entail bringing in coaches from Baghdad so it is likely to take



Test city: destitute refugees camped under the sweltering sun in Jordan wait desperately for food, water and attention from consular officials

at least some days before anything definite can be arranged.

At the weekend seven British men, who had been camping out in the grounds of the British embassy compound in Baghdad, were seized when they tried to get exit visas for their families. Although disturbed by the incident, the Foreign Office is regarding it as an isolated incident.

Yesterday the Foreign Office was still trying to discover whether the apparent ban on foreign flights to evacuate Iraqi policy or simply the result of chaotic bureaucratic procedures in Baghdad.

AMMAN: A British doctor and his wife told yesterday how they escaped from Kuwait to Jordan in a cattle lorry by hiding among a group of Nepalese and concealing their passports.

"My wife and I knew that we had to hide our passports, and among a group of Nepalese we had a better chance not to stand out as Britons," Dr Buvna Joshi told a news conference here.

Dr Buvna and his wife

Bimana, who are of Nepalese origin but have British passports, said they fled from Kuwait and Iraq in a cattle lorry crammed with 84 Nepalese refugees on August 29. "At the Iraqi border with Jordan we had to get out of the truck and hand in our passports for exit visas."

"We did not give ours and thank God the Iraqis did not do a head count," Dr Buvna, an orthopaedic surgeon who worked in Kuwait for 12 years, said.

"We spent two days in the cattle lorry. We did not sleep. My wife was terrified and crying all the time," he added.

The couple decided that it was time to leave Kuwait after Iraqi soldiers stopped and detained Dr Buvna on the street for three hours because he had a British passport. "They were stopping everyone in the streets and checking their passports. The soldier, when he saw my identity card, started saying 'British, British'."

Dr Buvna said an Iraqi officer let him go, apparently because he looked more Nepalese than British. (Reuters)

TOKYO AID

Japanese business cool on help for Gulf forces

From JOE JOSEPH in TOKYO

NOBODY looks to Japan for the grand gesture, but even some of its more patient allies are twitching at Tokyo's stammering and dithering over the Gulf crisis.

Just when the world's newest superpower was offered a chance to roar on the world stage, it has barely managed a schoolgirl's squeak.

Details of how much it eventually will contribute are still vague, the timing even more vague. Last night government officials said they were trying to put together an aid package for the front-line Gulf states but that nothing would be ready before the end of this month.

The government yesterday also asked private industry to

lend a hand in supporting the multinational forces in the Gulf by sending out jeeps, carrying ships, refrigerators and power generators.

But the big Japanese trading houses that the government wants to help transport supplies to the US and other forces in the Gulf are cool about the idea of using their distribution networks for the task. They say they are up to the job but they are worried that co-operating with the government could bring harm to their 55 employees being held hostage by Iraq. "Can the government assure us that such a thing won't happen?" one trading house official asked last night.

Yesterday Toshiki Kaifu, Japan's prime minister, said that he was pinning his hopes on the United Nations being able to resolve the conflict. His officials repeated that Japan had only \$1 billion (£529 million) to contribute to the cost of the international Gulf operation, even though the oil-dependent country has more to lose than some of its less energy-dependent allies. By contrast, the Gulf bill for American taxpayers is expected to top \$1 billion a month, even without an outbreak of open hostilities.

So far Japan has firmly committed only \$10 million in emergency aid for Jordan. Some see that as parsimonious from the world's second richest country, especially when two Japanese yachting syndicates can raise more than

\$60 million to finance a 1992 challenge for the America's Cup. Unlike its allies, Japan gave in to Iraq's request to close its embassy in Kuwait.

Tokyo is also having trouble rounding up the 100 doctors it promised to send to the Gulf. Japan says its constitution prevents it from dispatching military doctors, and the civilian ones are worried about pay, injury and a long stay. Japanese airlines are balking at flying even non-military supplies to dangerous areas.

Nicholas Brady, the US Treasury Secretary, arrives here on Friday to urge Japan to give greater support for the Gulf effort. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, follows him early next week. Japan says it is giving as much as it can in cash, and it cannot give anything in military men or minesweepers because its peace constitution ties its hands. Some critics think the government is using the constitution to divert attention from the basic issue of whether Tokyo could afford to dig deeper into its pockets.

Inside Japan the debate dwells on whether the constitution allows Tokyo to send members of its Self-Defence Forces abroad, even under the UN flag. Japanese public opinion is against sending troops to the Gulf. So are most of Japan's editorial writers. But some powerful politicians, together with the leaders of the Self-Defence Forces, say the time has come for Japan to break with the past.

BLOCKADE

Supplies short as boycott bites

From NICHOLAS BEESTON IN RIYADH

IRAQ is beginning to run out of basic food supplies, only weeks after the United Nations imposed an economic blockade, according to Western diplomats in Saudi Arabia.

"The speed with which the boycott is taking effect is very impressive," said one source. "We thought that Iraq had up to six months of supplies when the blockade was imposed, but already shortages are beginning to hit the consumer."

Western embassies in Iraq say there is no rice in any shops, even though the country was supposed to have enough stockpiled for two to three months. Witnesses report long queues outside bakeries, which have been forced to bake smaller loaves and enforce rationing. Shoes have also run out of sugar and cooking oil.

"Fruit and vegetables are in abundant supply, thanks to an unusually good harvest this summer," said one diplomat. "There is also a great deal of chicken on the market, but this is likely to disappear soon. It seems all of Iraq's chicken feed is imported, so the poultry farms have been forced to slaughter their animals."

It is estimated that Iraq has enough supplies to last four to six months before its population of 18 million people starts to go hungry.

Military sources were confident yesterday that the sea and land blockades would successfully prevent any large quantities of new supplies from reaching the country.

In addition, Britain has suggested enforcing an air blockade. It is possible that countries such as Libya, Algeria, Yemen, Jordan, and possibly India, might try to help Iraq, but none has the ability to launch a successful air strike.

"When you consider the enormous resupply effort required to break the Berlin blockade which, after all, was just one city, the logistics needed to supply a country the size of Iraq with food would be an impossible undertaking," said one diplomat.

Any sanctions-breaking aircraft would require overflight permission from Iran, Turkey, Syria, Egypt or Saudi Arabia before reaching Iraqi airspace. All the countries have said they will honour the UN boycott and have shown no sign of breaking their word.

One Western military source said: "If a plane did try to break the blockade we could send up warplanes to intercept it and instruct it to land." If the aircraft ignored the warnings, the warplanes could fire tracer rounds to frighten the pilot. The interception of aircraft would probably be enough to halt or slow the flow of supplies, he said.

TEHRAN THAW

Iran signals readiness for ties with Britain

From MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

AS IRAN'S pragmatists seek to capitalise on the shifting alliances in the Middle East, a senior official yesterday called for "fruitful and beneficial" ties with Britain but said they should be based on "non-interference in each other's internal affairs."

Iran has also announced it is stepping up its efforts to help tens of thousands of foreigners flee from Kuwait.

Mahmoud Vaezi, Iran's deputy foreign minister, told the *Tehran Times*: "The Islamic republic can remain committed to its principles and at the same time have important regional and inter-

national co-operation with Britain."

Mr Vaezi, who is in charge of European and American affairs at the foreign ministry, was responding to a statement by William Waldegrave, a British foreign minister, at the weekend signalling that London was considering renewing ties with Tehran and Damascus following their support for the international campaign to drive Iraq out of Kuwait.

Mr Waldegrave said on Saturday that Syria and Iran were "firmly on the same side of a very important fence", with Britain because both were "standing by international law over the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait".

He said Britain and Iran

had to solve three problems: the British hostages in Lebanon, the late Ayatollah Khomeini's death sentence against Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, and the case of Roger Cooper, a British businessman jailed in Tehran on spying charges.

Mr Vaezi described the three problems as "transitory and impermanent issues" and said they could be solved quickly if diplomatic ties between London and Tehran were normalised.

Another newspaper yesterday made clear that hard-liners in Iran were unhappy with the developments that have strengthened the position of their pragmatic opponents. *Jomhuri Islami* insisted Iran would not compromise

on the death order against Mr Rushdie or on the case of Mr Cooper. Significantly, perhaps, the newspaper did not refer to the three British hostages in Lebanon.

Mr Vaezi's remarks were made to the *Tehran Times*, which is close to President Rafsanjani, on the same day that sources close to the Iranian government in Beirut were quoted as saying a British hostage would be freed later this month and all the 12 Westerners held captive in Lebanon would be released within the next few weeks. There was no immediate confirmation of the report.

Iran's Supreme National Security Council said last month it was satisfied that the British government had dis-

tanced itself from Mr Rushdie's novel and ordered the foreign ministry to restore ties with Britain.

Iran announced at the weekend it would allow 100,000 refugees to cross its territory. Thousands of foreigners, mostly Pakistanis, have crossed into Iran since it opened its borders last week to those fleeing from Kuwait. An Iranian official said most of the Pakistanis travelled overland to Pakistan, while others made their way to Tehran where their governments were making arrangements to fly them home. The UN Disaster Relief Organisation said it was trying to organise a fleet of buses to help up to 500,000 refugees gathering on Iran's borders.

Conflict may reprieve Europe plane

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

EVENTS in the Gulf could guarantee the future of the European Fighter Aircraft, which many people believed might be axed for political reasons.

Opposition to the building of the £21 billion aircraft, a joint project by Britain, Spain, Italy and Germany, was increasing in the wake of improved East-West relations, with rumours that West Germany would withdraw.

The rumours were denied yesterday by project officials,

who said there was no evidence such a withdrawal was likely. In recent weeks their confidence has been increased by the heightened interest shown in the highly agile fighter by countries in the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia is now thought to be ready to support the project. Ivan Yates, managing director of the project, said yesterday that British Aerospace, which has sold Tornados and Hawk aircraft to Saudi Arabia, is having informal talks with the Saudis

among other countries in the region. British Aerospace has a 33 per cent share in the work on the aircraft. It is to produce the cockpit and front fuselage. Rolle-Royce is providing a similar share of the technology for the engine to power the fighter.

Germany and Britain have each ordered 250 of the aircraft, Italy 165 and Spain 100 in advance of the final decision to go ahead with full production, which is not expected to be taken until 1993.

AIRWAVES WAR

Awacs jamming a blow to America

From SUSAN ELLICOTT in WASHINGTON

IRAQI ground stations fitted with Soviet equipment recently jammed American and Saudi Arabian eavesdropping aircraft on observation missions in the Gulf, a report quoting American intelligence officials claims.

The report, in the *Wash-*

ington *Times*, has alarmed military experts, who have been emphasising the superiority of US intelligence forces. Iraq's capacity to jam the aircraft by using powerful multi-band transmitters on the ground is new since the end of the Iran-Iraq war two years ago.

The reports have increased fears that the Soviet Union might be helping Baghdad to operate the spying equipment, which jammed the radar and communications systems of several Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft (Awacs). President Bush is expected to ask President Gorbachev this weekend in Helsinki to withdraw 193 Soviet military advisers acknowledged by Moscow to be in Iraq.

American intelligence agencies estimate the number still working inside the country could be between one and two thousand.

At least seven Saudi and US Awacs aircraft have been flying in shifts 24 hours a day to monitor the Iraqi forces on the ground and in the air. US intelligence experts estimate that the aircraft would give about 12 to 24 hours' warning before an attack by Iraq. The Awacs have been vital during the past month to gauge Iraq's ground forces while the US builds up its own air forces to bolster its ground troops.

HIGH-TECH WEAPONS

Iraqi MiGs pose air threat to allies

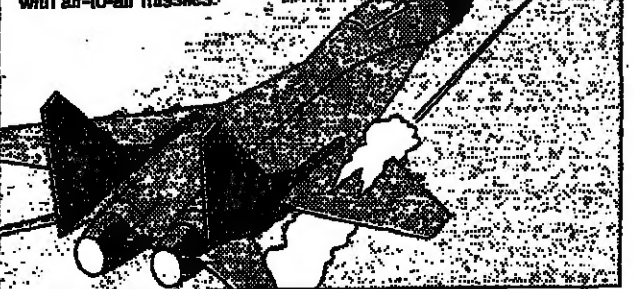
By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AIR power has already played a vital deterrent role in the Gulf. The rapid deployment of American F15s and F16s from their bases in the United States to Saudi Arabia and the line-up of carrier-based fighters in the Gulf and the Red Sea probably stopped the Iraqi tanks in their tracks as President Saddam Hussein thought twice about launching an offensive against the kingdom.

If there is to be war, it is accepted that air superiority will be decisive. Although many of Iraq's fighters are older generation aircraft, the two squadrons of Soviet MiG 29 Fulcrums will be more than a match for the American F15s and F16s, and the British and Saudi Tornados.

However, there is some doubt about the capabilities of

Iraq's MiG 29 Fulcrum combat fighter. Iraqi air force has 30 Soviet MiG 29s, one of the most capable air superiority aircraft in the world, armed with air-to-air missiles.



the Iraqi pilots. They have no combat experience since there were virtually no aerial dog-fights during the Iran-Iraq war, largely because the Iraqis had nothing to rival the Iraqi air force.

The single-seat, twin-engined MiG 29, which first became operational in the Soviet air force in 1985, is about the size of the American FA18 Hornet.

The Soviet domestic version has look-down, shoot-down radar but it is not

known whether the MiG 29s sold to Iraq have this capability.

In the West, the MiG 29 is recognised to be one of the best air fighters in the world. The Fulcrum's top speed is Mach 2.3, about 1,520mph, and its maximum rate of climb is 65,000ft a minute. The fighter can operate day and night and in bad weather. However, the pilot of a Fulcrum does not have the all-round field of view provided for pilots in the American F15s and F16s.

The MiG 29 is armed with medium-range and short-range air-to-air missiles, probably the AA6 Acrid and AA8 Aphid systems.

The MiG 29s were first displayed to the West at the Farnborough air show in 1988. Iraq is believed to have about 30 of the aircraft.

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NO SOFT OPTIONS

Even before parliament convenes on Thursday, Labour and Liberal Democrat leaders are reaching for the cloak of the United Nations to justify jettisoning their promises of a non-partisan approach to the government's handling of policy on the Gulf. A letter to the prime minister from Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrats' leader, demands commitments which would severely constrain Britain's future military options. These Mrs Thatcher has consistently, and rightly, refused to make.

Mr Ashdown expects the government to state unequivocally that Britain will "follow sanctions, and sanctions alone", in pursuit of its aim. He asks for an undertaking that Britain accepts that it is for the UN Security Council, not individual states, to decide if further action is required, and a pledge that Britain will not initiate offensive action without the council's explicit authorisation. He challenges the government's contention that the individual and collective self-defence clause of the UN Charter, article 51, provides adequate legal grounds for assisting Kuwait to recover its territory. Significantly, his letter never mentions the victim, Kuwait.

Labour's Gerald Kaufman, not content with launching his own peace plan for the entire Middle East last week, has taken this attachment to the United Nations a stage further. Not only has he made Labour's support for the government conditional on the latter acting only with specific UN authorisation, but he purports to believe that "the whole object of this exercise is to uphold the authority of the UN". The UN is only a means to an end. A more upside down sense of priorities in the face of Iraq's aggression is difficult to imagine.

Any approach now which encourages President Saddam Hussein to believe that he can hold on to Kuwait decreases the hope of his withdrawing and thus increases the risk of war. The rapid deployment of American forces in Saudi Arabia pre-empted an Iraqi move on the Saudi oilfields. The decision to use American and British forces to impose the naval blockade on Iraq forced Saddam (and the international community) to take sanctions

seriously. But Iraq remains in possession of Kuwait, and has refused even to discuss withdrawal with the UN secretary-general, whose peace efforts seem increasingly futile.

Should Iraq now conclude that no further action will be taken without UN approval, Baghdad will multiply its efforts to bypass sanctions and hope for the world to tire of confrontation. What then? Article 51 says that states are justified in using force against aggression only "until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security". This famous catch-all phrase allows room for the judgment on the definition of "necessary". More to the point are the successive resolutions on Kuwait itself, which imposed enforceable sanctions in order to remove Iraq from Kuwait. These resolutions explicitly left open the question of article 51, under which the British, American and Arab forces are now operating.

In the escalation of any conflict, states directly involved in resisting an acknowledged threat to peace are likely to form their own views on the appropriate use of force. Important as it is to use the United Nations as the basis for any multinational action, failure to compel Iraq to retreat would be a far greater, and more consequential, defeat for international law than acting without the express sanction of the security council. A week of tense negotiations was required to obtain security council endorsement of an already existing naval blockade. That provides a foretaste of the difficulty of getting 15 states to approve offensive military action to drive Iraq from Kuwait. There will always be peace moves in the offing, excuses to defer a decision.

Mrs Thatcher should not bow to Mr Ashdown's further demand that Britain limit itself in advance to removing Iraq from Kuwait. The tactical equation of any conflict over Kuwait could well require military action against Iraq, both to ensure a successful withdrawal, and to prevent any early repetition. The prime minister understands this and deserves ungrudging support on Thursday from all sides of the house.

THE TUC PLAYS POLITICS

The Trades Union Congress annual conference in Blackpool yesterday was ostensibly debating industrial relations law. In reality the debate was pure electoral politics. The TUC wants Labour to win the next election more than it wants anything else. For most of the delegates that was the only point at issue, as it is the only point for the employment secretary, Michael Howard, who timed a press conference to coincide with the debate, to spoil the TUC's fun. Both sides know that trade union reform has, since 1979, been the thorn in Labour's side. Neil Kinnock is seeking desperately to remove it; Mr Howard is seeking equally desperately to drive it further in. On their relative success the next election may turn.

The electorate will look in vain for further illumination on where industrial law in Britain is likely to go in the next decade. The debate on Labour's trade union policy must eventually return from the higher slopes of electioneering to ground level. Above all, Tony Blair, the shadow employment minister, should take an early opportunity to spell out exactly, with no further ambiguity or room for backing off later, Labour's approach to the law on secondary picketing.

Is such picketing to return to the everyday armoury of industrial conflict or is it to be an exceptional and marginal phenomenon? Mr Blair, with injured innocence, gives the latter impression. But so far there is no guarantee that the law he proposes would not have the former effect. The deliberately loose drafting of Labour's policy review on this point could mean several different things. The right to picket suppliers and customers, for instance, could mean picketing power stations in virtually every dispute; the right to picket those whose terms and conditions are linked to the conditions in dispute could be applied across a whole industrial sector.

Until this credibility gap is closed, Mr Howard is entitled to make Labour's secondary picketing policy mean whatever suits his

argument. The majority at the TUC yesterday was not concerned to do every 1 in Labour's approach but primarily to give a vague impression of approval to the new policies to a sceptical world outside. The world cannot be much impressed. The majority contained a slab of votes, mainly from Ron Todd's transport union, which were also cast for the contrary motion.

Such tactics convey an impression of muddle or cynicism and suggest that the decision was more meaningless than it looked. But at least the Labour party will not now have to enter the next election campaign in a state of war with its main union constituency. The vagueness of yesterday's decision will make it difficult for the TUC to repudiate the small print of a Labour government's industrial relations law, whatever it turns out to be. The trade union movement is trusting Mr Blair to be gentle with it: a trust the electorate would like to see misplaced.

The TUC needs no reminding that trade unionism is in decline in Britain and that unions are finding the present industrial climate stony ground for sowing their message. With varying degrees of radicalism the "realists", to whom the trade union future (if there is one) surely belongs, believe in adaptation and persuasion, a market response to the changed needs of the potential individual consumer. The traditionalists are praying for a return to their collectivist golden age, whenever that was.

What both hanker after is the end of the siege of trade union affairs that they associate with Tory policies, the new dawn of trade union power that they expect the election of a Labour government to bring. Their desperation to see that day at almost any cost was the real message of yesterday's decision. The more firmly grounded their hopes, however, the more reason the electorate will have for giving credence to Mr Howard's version of Labour policy rather than Mr Blair's.

COLOUR NO OBJECT

A chorus of disapproval broke out in New York in July when a "Caucasian" actor, Jonathan Pryce, was mooted to play the part of a Eurasian pimp in the Broadway production of the musical *Miss Saigon*. He had played the part brilliantly in London and no Asian-American reached such a standard in auditions. Now another, similar row may break over the head of the musical's producer, Cameron Mackintosh. Advertising in *The Stage* for chorus replacements in the London show, he states that only Orientals need apply. A case of double standards or legitimate artistic discrimination?

American Equity, the actors' trade union, was quite wrong to try to blackmail Mr Pryce in the first place. (It has since backed down but has refused to give the production the full backing that Mr Mackintosh demands.) The job of an actor is to portray somebody else so convincingly that the audience suspends its disbelief. The better the actor, the bigger the credibility gap across which he can carry an audience. Most casting directors would prefer to find an actor who approximates in appearance and age to the character he or she plays. But acting ability can make up for discrepancies between the actor and the part. A convincing actor, with the aid of a good make-up artist, can be made to age several decades in the course of a play without difficulty.

Mr Pryce needs good make-up too; each night in the London production, he taped his eyelids down to make himself more eastern. More important for the audience is the talent he brings to the part. For over two hours, he rarely leaves the stage and the singing and dancing required would tax the most professional of musical actors. To deny him the

chance to play on Broadway would deprive New York audiences of the opportunity to witness a performance of merit. American Equity's stand was contrary to the demands of art.

Such "anti-racist" pressure could backfire on a theatrical world that is becoming increasingly flexible about colour. Josette Simon, a black actress, has recently played the Marilyn Monroe character in Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* with great panache. Productions at the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company often include black actors in white parts, even in Shakespeare. Pigeonholing actors into ethnic compartments is the best way of ensuring that non-whites never get the chance to play the great parts in the English-speaking theatrical repertoire.

Does that imply that Mr Mackintosh was wrong to specify "Orientals only" for his chorus, discriminating, so to speak, against non-Orientals? Not necessarily. Producers and directors should cast the best-suited actors for any role. Suitability includes appearance, for appearance is one of the devices that the dramatist uses. Mr Pryce's natural looks may not have been well-suited to his part but his acting ability and cosmetic skill more than made up for the shortfall.

For less demanding parts, such as those that are now being advertised, there are doubtless plenty of Asian actors with the requisite skills. The issue is thus not the politics of race but the integrity of art. The art at issue is that of the director. On the assumption that directors are themselves not discriminating on grounds of race — not always a fair assumption but fair in this case — they should not be forced by the law, or by trade union action, so to do.

Diplomacy and use of force in Gulf

From Sir Archie Lamb

Sir, The statement by Mr Abdullah Bishara (August 30) that he believes in "diplomacy based on force" is surprising, coming as it does from a distinguished and experienced Kuwaiti diplomat: his government did not base its diplomacy between 1961 and 1990 on its exigent armed forces. Its not unsuccessful diplomacy in many fields may have been supported by the power of its wealth; but that is a long way from force.

If the government of Kuwait and the other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) agree with Mr Bishara on the basis for successful diplomacy they must have accepted a view that I have held for many years and which I have expressed, for example, in a talk I gave in Washington, DC, in October 1987.

If Iraq cases to be a power in the Gulf, Iraq will have a free hand to pursue its ambitions in the region, individually or in combination, are not strong enough to withstand without outside support.

The restoration of an independent Kuwait will not guarantee that Iraq's long-standing claim to Kuwait will be consigned to the history books. The United Nations and/or the Arab world and/or the Western world are facing the open-ended commitment of an evident presence in the Gulf to deter further "diplomacy based on force" in which Mr Bishara professes to believe and, presumably, admires.

Yours faithfully,
A. T. LAMB
White Cross Lodge,
Zeals, Wiltshire,
August 30.

From Mr Toby Horton

Sir, In the aftermath of Suez, Sir Anthony Eden wrote (in *Full Circle*):

"The main question is whether inertia would have brought better results for the peace of the world than action. I think not. I thought and think that failure to act would have brought the worst of consequences."

A modest consolation of the past weeks is that the judgment of the Eden government in 1956 has finally been vindicated. The hard

Examination questions

From the Director of the Higher Education Advice and Planning Service

Sir, The Chief Executive of the Polytechnics Central Admissions System (August 23) appears to grossly underestimate the anxieties of applications to higher education and their parents at A-level time and overestimates the ease with which they can obtain relevant personal advice. The Universities Central Council on Admissions and PCAS have faced the difficult task of organising a complex system, which nevertheless causes confusion among sixth-formers every year and considerable expense to their parents.

I concur that a student's first source of advice should be his or her school, except that most schools are closed in August. Similarly I always recommend enquirers to seek free advice from the careers service, but whilst careers officers can answer many

Manuscript access

From the Secretary of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts

Sir, The librarian of Rugby School enquires (August 25) whether private owners of historical manuscripts might be offered an opportunity to register their papers to make these known and accessible to scholars whilst retaining their rights of property and privacy.

The National Register of Archives has been fulfilling this purpose since its establishment in 1945. It is maintained by this Commission, which has registered 33,224 such collections. Lists of their contents may be consulted in its search room, the papers themselves being located in about 1,350 record offices and libraries or in the hands of some 4,000 private owners, individual and corporate. About 2,000 new or substantially amended lists are registered annually and reported in the Commission's publications. Additionally, its central indexes note numerous collections which have

Roads and traffic

From Mr Richard Dimen

Sir, It is unfortunate that Dame Jennifer Jenkins (report, August 25) should seek to perpetuate the myth that the Government's road programme will generate such quantities of extra cars that an area the size of Berkshire would have to be put aside simply for parking them.

The experience of periods in which few or no additions were made to the road network clearly show that traffic continued to

Cathedral aid

From the Reverend Michael Lloyd

Sir, Mr Oliver Lever suggests (August 22) that the Archbishop of Canterbury's appeal for government aid for cathedrals is "surely ill-founded" on the grounds that the extra money needed could be met by a 50 per cent increase in giving by the average churchgoer.

While agreeing with Mr Lever that we should give more and that wealthy dioceses should support their poorer neighbours, I suspect that average churchgoers would not put the preservation of ancient buildings as a high priority for the mission of the Church or for the receipt of their extra 50 per cent.

Churches are being distracted from their main aims by the

financial drain caused by their (proper) sense of responsibility for the buildings they have inherited. Government aid would be entirely appropriate to help reduce the weight of this (beautiful) albatross around their necks.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL LLOYD
(Assistant Chaplain),
Worcester College, Oxford.

From Mr Trevor Furze
Sir, The Bishop of Chester (August 29) reminds us of how "giving" to cathedrals and churches actually

takes place, but for the visitor it is enforced.

On a recent visit to Ely Cathedral the admission charge was £2.20. This did not include the west tower (an extra £1.60), nor the stained glass exhibition (another £1). £4.80 for the day far exceeds Mr Lever's suggested contribution of £4 per week.

The saddest part of the visit to Ely was the sight of a small family group, at first hovering near the entrance and then turning away having counted the cost.

For them their heritage was already too expensive.

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR FURZE,
8 Folly Lane,
Wool,
Wareham, Dorset.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number (071) 782 5046.

of the queries they receive. I doubt whether they can spend up to 1½ hours with each client. Neither do I imagine that they can be reached at home during evenings and weekends, a service offered by some private agencies.

During the past two years — originally at the request of some schools — I have conducted seminars round the UK, the audiences largely consisting of careers officers and teachers seeking up-to-date information.

In view of such a need may I suggest that PCAS, perhaps combining with UCCA, might organise some in-service training courses for advisers in June, July and August, rather than criticise private organisations who have recognised a need and who find it an increasingly costly exercise.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN HEAP, Director,
Higher Education Advice and Planning Service,
200 Greyhound Road, W14,
August 24.

Yours faithfully,
W. S. PARKER,
68 Ladies Mile Road,
Patcham,
Brighton, East Sussex,
August 31.

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August 24.

Jewish dimension to Guinness trial

From Mr Joel Freedman

Sir, In his article, "High finance, higher ethics" (September 1), Mr Longley acknowledges the danger of making the "sweeping proposition" that Jews are especially inclined to sharp business practices... but, he says, "many non-Jews think they are". He further acknowledges that, while in folk prejudice the "Jewish banker" is an unkind cliché, "herein lies the problem. He exists".

Who stands to lose more from these misconceptions? The Jew who is the victim of them or the non-Jew who is misguided enough to believe them? For the non-Jew, they give rise to some theological debate and some soul-searching. For the Jew, they have threatened his very existence.

Sadly, Mr Longley makes no reference to the disproportionate contribution which Jews have made to the financial circles of which they have ever been a part. Nor does he mention their disproportionate contribution in the fields of law, medicine, philosophy and science and every other facet of benevolent human endeavour. No reference is made to the disproportionately high numbers of Jews killed in the armed services of this country during two world wars, which surely contrast with the "us" and "them" mentality and "outsider" perspectives of which he speaks.

The contribution, highly disproportionate to their numbers, made by Jews throughout history has earned them small return from the civilised world. Would it make much difference, then, if they felt greater or lesser collective responsibility for the errant few in their midst? Yet Jews still feel that responsibility.

If non-Jewish "perspectives" were all that they might be, the statement that "All four defendants in the Guinness trial were

little valued by those who pay for it comes too cheap.

Attempts by universities to achieve cost savings by reducing their basic research are futile, either driving academic salaries up to the market levels paid by teaching-only institutions, such as the private business colleges and law schools, or driving down the quality of staff.

The dangers of transferring basic research funding, as is widely predicted, from the UGC to the research councils should also be noted. Without a genuine contractual expectation that each member of staff can have time for basic research, the public benefits of research effort below market rate would be lost.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN SEVILLE
(Academic Registrar)
City University,
Northampton Square, EC1
August 28.

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City University,
Northampton Square, EC1
August 28.

Jews" would have difficulty finding a place in your columns.

Yours etc.,
JOEL FREEDMAN,
31 Boydell Court,
St John's Wood Park, NW8,
September 2.

From Sir Alfred Sherman

Sir, Since Mishnaic times, our sages have pronounced on the question: *dina damalkhina dina*, the law of the land is the law. This was later more picturesquely paraphrased as "render unto Caesar...". They have also reminded Jews that all are in effect hostages for each others' behaviour. Jewish institutions have always made efforts, wherever possible, to ensure that the behaviour of each and every Jew be above reproach.

All we know of several centuries of Jewish settlement in this country belies the assertions retailed by Clifford Longley, and indeed shows the contrary to be true. Shall we now be constrained to prove our innocence?

Yours respectfully,
ALFRED SHERMAN,
10 Gerald Road, SW1,
September 2.

From Mr Aubrey Sella

Sir, The comments of Mr Clifford Longley are *prima facie* reasonably balanced relating to the "Jewish outsiders".

An interesting test will now be to record how many prosecutions are brought and the verdicts thereon involving persons other than Jews in the so-called upper echelons of the British business and financial community.

Yours faithfully,
A. A. SELLER,
Portman Gate, Flat 4,
106 Lisson Grove, NW1,
September 2.

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The battle is on to woo outside investment and create jobs to stop the exodus of young people

A welcome in the hillside

Historians have to look back almost 200 years to 1797 for the date when the footsteps of foreign invaders were last heard on Welsh soil. Now a battle is being fought on the home front that will undoubtedly have far-reaching consequences for the half a million people who populate the central heartlands of the principality.

There is no invader to fear, but the economy of rural Wales has to be improved to secure it a good future by stemming the flow of young people who tend to pack up and move away. For instance, 68 per cent of the people who left Dyfed in 1988 were in the 16 to 44 age group.

Since 1977 the Development Board for Rural Wales has won a reputation for success in fighting its regional battles by creating more than 12,000 much-needed jobs.

The past decade has seen the board's efforts reach a stage where every fortnight it now completes a factory creating 15 job opportunities and every week makes grants and loans worth more than £30,000 available to businesses.

Those statistics could be interpreted as fulfilling its role of stimulating economic activity and promoting em-

ployment. But the board has set itself a challenge for the decade: an ambitious strategy document that details its aims for the Nineties.

The strategy faces fundamental concerns such as the shortage of housing and the gradual decline in jobs and income levels in agriculture.

GROWTH AREAS

● The six growth areas designated by the Development Board for Rural Wales are Aberystwyth, Ffestiniog Valley, Brecon, Central Powys, Newtown and Welshpool.

● Cardigan, Lampeter, Bala, Dolgellau, Tywyn, Hay-on-Wye, Ystradgynlais, Knighton, Presteigne, Llanidloes, Llanfyllin and Machynlleth have been designated "special towns".

The board has set itself the task of building new businesses to provide work for those who might previously have formed the farming labour force and use the government's new flexi-ownership initiative to provide housing to encourage the young to stay in Wales.

Glyn Davies, the board's chairman, says: "As we pursue the primary objective of

retaining more of our young people through increased economic activity in the Nineties, our high standards of design and landscape enhancement will not be compromised.

"Mid-Wales is an outstandingly beautiful part of the United Kingdom, a factor that will assume increased importance throughout the development board's work."

In the next three years at least, the investment plans of the board will be devoted to the more remote western half of its area. Output per person will have to rise and business rents will need to increase if the economic structure of rural Wales is to be strengthened.

A main objective is to increase the amount of private investment in new industries, which should create jobs that do not rely on purely local markets but draw in revenue from outside the region.

Mr Davies and his colleagues realise that through the Nineties, the prosperity of mid-Wales will be determined to a great degree by the success of the UK economy. The single European market and the Channel tunnel will also play an important part, but the board is aware that there is a danger they could increase regional imbalance. A strong regional policy is vital.



Leading the fight: Glyn Davies on his farm in Welshpool

The board, therefore, advocates the formation of a rural development agency to promote the idea that Wales means business. It is also working behind the scenes to ensure the remoteness that is part of the charm of rural Wales does not also prove to be one of its main drawbacks. The board is, therefore, working with British Telecom in an attempt to ensure improvement to the region's telecommunications.

The board has pinpointed six growth areas where it will focus investment and has earmarked £1.3 million this year for 12 towns and their surrounding districts which should see a rapid boost towards a self-sustaining economy. If the strategy works, then many a tearful farewell will not have to be endured. More youngsters will be able to set their sights on a future in the land where they were born.

Down, but not out

How Welsh farmers are overcoming their years of bitter harvest

The two men tramping through the rugged Welsh terrain could not have been more different.

Beneath a thick woollen jumper, the slim farmer appeared to have a hard, muscled body, from long hours of working the land. The politician wore the serious look of a man used to wrestling with national problems. His Barbour failed to hide the smart city suit beneath.

But David Hunt, the new Welsh Secretary, was not there to impress onlookers with his rural fashion sense; he was there to learn. "I want to see for myself," he said.

Mr Hunt was visiting Caerwyn Roberts on his farm at Harlech in north Wales, the first in a series of farm visits, to learn at first hand about the problems third generation farmers are facing.

Farmers like Mr Roberts believe their time will not be wasted in a land where agriculture is said to be twice as important to the economy as it is in the rest of Britain. More than 82 per cent of Wales is devoted to agriculture and some 60,000 people are employed in the industry.

However, the 30,231 farms in Wales have recently gathered in a harvest of problems. The introduction of milk quotas in 1984 resulted in massive upheavals, mainly in Dyfed where the Welsh dairy industry is concentrated.

Then the Chernobyl disaster sent a radioactive cloud over north Wales which poured poisoned rain over sheep and cattle. Restrictions on the sale of lamb are still in force in some areas.

Beef farmers have also had difficulties. Sales of red meat have been falling gradually for some time, and since bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) became a public concern sales have tumbled further.

To help farmers market their products, two organisations, the Welsh Food Initiative and the Welsh Lamb Enterprise, have been formed. The lamb enterprise is a



Farm friends: David Hunt (right) and Caerwyn Roberts

marketing organisation, established by farmers themselves, while the government-backed food initiative has five executives based in the region to work with producers.

Rural Wales mainly comprises family farms of about 100 acres and, instead of becoming entrenched and inward looking, these families are using enterprise and skill to tackle financial problems. Many have diversified, with organic farming expanding and subsidiary industries taking hold.

Some farmers have turned restaurants, using their own produce in the kitchens; others have opened up their farms to pony trekking and ramblers.

To ensure that more young people remain in rural Wales to provide an agricultural workforce, the Tai Cynrhu housing organisation is investing £25 million in housing. Homes are being built on 31 developments which can be bought by locals under a shared ownership scheme.

This allows them to buy as big a stake in their house as they wish. But if they move, they have to sell the property back to the council, which will pay the full market value.

With the dairy industry so large in Wales, there is now an abundance of effort being put into the sale and marketing of fine cheeses such as Caws Cernarh or Pant Ysgawn or even Monterey.

Tapping into other investments and cleaning up

A piece of litter tossed on to a pavement in Stratford-upon-Avon would seem to have little to do with the fortunes of the newly privatised Welsh Water business. But the cleanliness of the streets around William Shakespeare's birthplace is a subject worthy of discussion by the new shareholders of the company.

Speculators who innocently believed they were investing simply in reservoirs are learning that the water industry flows into many and varied tributaries of private enterprise.

A £1 million contract has recently been signed with the Stratford-upon-Avon district council for a subsidiary of Welsh Water to clean the streets of the English town for the next three

Water authority wins £1 million refuse contract

and a half years. Cambrian Environmental Services was formed earlier this year by Welsh Water and Saur, a French company, in a joint venture.

It is one example of why Welsh Water has become something of a surprise success story for privatisation, having already exceeded the expectations set out in its prospectus.

Welsh Water officials point out that the management of water is their fundamental task, but they see a vigorous capital-investment programme as the bedrock of profit growth.

In Wales, that means serving three million customers and the 11 million

visitors who go to the principality every year. Welsh Water, with almost 4,000 employees, is one of the biggest businesses in Wales.

Most of the workforce is in the rural sectors, where the bulk of the company's 90 main reservoirs and 900 service reservoirs and water towers are situated. They in turn are linked to 1,100 pumping stations and eventually to about 1,000 miles of sewers and 1,429 miles of water mains. Each person in Welsh Water's region uses 30 gallons of drinking quality water a day, so it is in some ways fortunate that annual rainfall in the area is the highest in the UK.

Over the next decade, Welsh Water plans to invest £1.75 billion to ensure success as a private company. Half the money will be spent on developing its above-ground assets, such as water treatment plants, and in the second half of the decade, investment will be devoted to improving mains and sewers.

Welsh Water recently reported a pre-tax profit on ordinary activities of £39.5 million on a turnover of £255.3 million, exceeding the forecast in its prospectus by £4 million.

The company chairman, John Elfed Jones, says: "The privatisation of the water and sewerage services business was achieved with a remarkable degree of success."

RURAL PROSPERITY



ACTION FOR THE

For more than a decade, the Welsh Development Agency has worked towards ensuring the prosperity of Wales. As a result, rural areas have benefited substantially, and the Agency's commitment to rural regeneration continues with a range of initiatives.

Our newly created Rural Affairs Division has initially targeted eleven communities in North, South and West Wales for 'Action Plan' regeneration schemes, inviting a significant contribution from local people themselves.

With an emphasis on community needs, the Agency will also be increasing its involvement in activities such as the development of the telecottage, a facility

which gives rural areas access to computer and telecommunications equipment; and the establishment of a Rural Skills Training Centre in Dyfed.

We will also be targeting particular industrial sectors. These involve, for example, liaising with the Forestry Commission in developing a plan for the forestry and woodprocessing industries and commissioning a report on opportunities with the scaffolding industry, including setting up a Fisheries Food Centre.

For further information about these and other rural initiatives, please contact: Alun Daniel, Welsh Development Agency, Pearl House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF1 3XX, or call Cardiff (0222) 222666.

COMMUNITIES



Growth from grass roots

An unavoidable difficulty faces anyone who seeks to preach the need for change in the rural heartlands of mid Wales. The breathtaking beauty of the countryside and the unspoilt charm of small towns and villages can obscure the vision of a region in need of guidance.

Any visitor motoring through the Brecon Beacons or along the Dyfed coastline on a smit day could be forgiven for believing that things should be left just as they are. The industrial valleys of the south still bear many of the scars which modern man is capable of inflicting on his environment.

But the 500,000 or so people who make up the population of rural Wales are refusing to adopt a blinkered attitude. Of careers, wellbeing inspired by the natural beauty which surrounds them. In village halls and community centres awkward questions are being tackled and answers are being put forward by the people themselves.

On the eighteenth floor of the Welsh Development Agency's headquarters in Cardiff, Alan Daniel, the organisation's executive director for rural affairs, is already turning words into action. He is a Welsh-speaking Welshman who knows something needs to be done and firmly believes that the agency's Strategy for Rural Prosperity can prove a vital

The communities of mid Wales are taking the problems of the region into their own hands and working towards greater stability and future prosperity



Man of action: Alan Daniel

weapon in the people's armoury.

The strategy, launched this year, identified 11 communities in rural Wales and plans are being drawn up to approach their problems individually. The work is based on grass roots democracy and begins in the community where the people meet to discuss the economic and business needs of their own districts.

Their ideas are then developed by steering groups in each area and plans detailing specific needs for investment and direction are written. The first of these should be completed by the autumn and the next finished by December. Next year, the agency's £30 million budget for rural Wales will be directed straight to the heart of the problem.

Gone are the days when the

agency could be accused of simply building factory space of the wrong size in the wrong place at the wrong time. Today's approach is far more scientific and self-critical.

"We recognise that at the WDA we do not have a monopoly on wisdom," Mr Daniel says. "What I am trying to do is work with other organisations and people from within the communities to provide the specific help that is needed."

"Our aim is to provide the whole range of services and facilities necessary to persuade young families to stay in a region they have been leaving in vast numbers."

Although the agency does not have a social or community role, one factor central to its rural

strategy is the improvement of the quality of life in the region. That means action to provide the sort of well-paid jobs which can sustain a vibrant economy.

The agency also knows it is necessary to generate new businesses in some areas associated with the traditional industries. At the moment, a fish caught off the Welsh coast can be landed and transported to Grimsby for processing before being returned to Wales where it will finally be served up at a restaurant in Tenby. The WDA intends to find ways to end that bizarre route to the dining room by helping to set up processing facilities in Dyfed.

Further inland, where forestry covers a vast expanse of rural Wales, the agency is examining methods of developing timber processing to give landowners a better return on their investments.

The potential of computers and telecommunications is being considered to encourage the development of local businesses through improved technology and create highly paid jobs in country areas.

Ioan Bowen Rees, chief executive of Gwynedd County Council, says: "The additional effort and resources which the WDA intends to deploy in rural areas will be immensely important to the economic viability which is the foundation of traditional communities and their culture."



Morgan Chambers: "A privilege to be involved in caring for this marvellous part of Wales"

The highest mountain peak in south Wales looms into view just a few miles north of Cardiff along the A470 dual carriageway and serves as a daily reminder to car commuters from the Welsh valleys that they live on the fringe of some of the most beautiful countryside in Wales.

Community charge payers from Mid Glamorgan, Gwent, Powys and Dyfed contribute just a little annually towards the upkeep of the Brecon Beacons National Park, this area of outstanding natural beauty virtually on their doorsteps.

The national park now demands a yearly budget of £1.6 million, which is spent on conservation, planning, distributing information to visitors, recreation and administration. All this is managed by a permanent staff of fewer than 60 people, not

Natural beauty on their doorstep

many considering the boost the national park provides to the tourism industry.

The Brecon Beacons National Park is one of only 11 areas in England and Wales to have been granted this highest status in landscape protection. Its committee, under the chairmanship of Morgan Chambers, a Mid Glamorgan county councillor, is

bound by an Act of Parliament to conserve its natural beauty and promote its enjoyment by the public.

For Mr Chambers, this is hardly a chore. "It is a privilege and a pleasure to be closely involved in caring for this marvellous part of Wales," he says.

The Brecon Beacons National Park owns 42,000 acres of land, which is more than any other national park in the country, but the committee still runs one of the lowest spending authorities.

In rural Wales, the Beacons is the southernmost of three national parks, which include the Pembrokeshire Coast in the west and Snowdonia to the north. All three have been subject to a high degree of change in recent years in environmental concepts, farming, recreation and rural development demands.



Pryor Edwards: head of a sophisticated big business

Out to win the foreign visitor

It is estimated that the tourism industry earned just under £1.5 billion for Wales in 1989. This amounts to one of the highest per capita incomes from tourism in Europe.

It now ranks second to manufacturing as a percentage of the gross domestic product and provides about 95,000 jobs, which makes up about 9 per cent of employment.

The Wales Tourist Board (WTB) pins its hopes for the future on marketing what it sees as the four selling points of its product: the scenery, heritage, culture and language.

Pryor Edwards, the chairman of the WTB, and just beginning his third three-year stint in the job, realises he is now at the head of a sophisticated business.

Shorter working weeks and greater disposable income

Its rich heritage, culture and language is boosting the Welsh tourist industry

have made Wales more accessible as a place to spend a day trip or enjoy an activity holiday. Tourists from the rest of Britain are discovering that a break in Wales can certainly mean more than a deckchair on the beach or a stroll through countryside.

There are 94 sailing clubs in Wales, with about 27,000 members who regularly enjoy their sport on the sea or inland lakes, rivers and reservoirs. Coastal marinas are cropping up in places around Milford Haven and Barmouth, where yachtsmen cruise in sloops and ketches more commonly associated with the seas around the south coast of England.

Flying clubs cater for visitors who want to take to the air and the hills of Powys and Gwent and parts of Mid Glamorgan are becoming as famous for their hang-gliders as they used to be for ramblers.

In the Dyfed countryside, a new haven for tourists is emerging in the shape of the Oakwood Leisure Park, near Narberth, which attracts scores of coaches from southern Britain. It is one of many activity and leisure parks in rural Wales that lure visitors from Britain and abroad.

The squeeze on spending caused by high interest rates and growing disenchantment with many of the cheaper

package-holiday destinations is causing British holiday-makers to look afresh at Wales.

However, the tourist board still feels it loses out to the rest of Britain in attracting foreigners. As a result it is pressing the government to grant it the legislative powers necessary to promote Wales overseas. Tourists from abroad are bigger spenders than the British, and are prepared to pay about £10 or more per person nightly for hotel accommodation.

Wales sees its future success in being able to attract more visitors from Ireland, Germany, The Netherlands, North America and Australasia. The weather may not be guaranteed, but rural Wales is definitely geared up to offer quality to any stranger who crosses Offa's Dyke.

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"Our policy of promoting rural development is spreading throughout Europe."

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- We make 100 business advice calls to local companies every month;
- And every year, we help to prepare 30,000 young people for the future by involving them in our education/industry programmes.

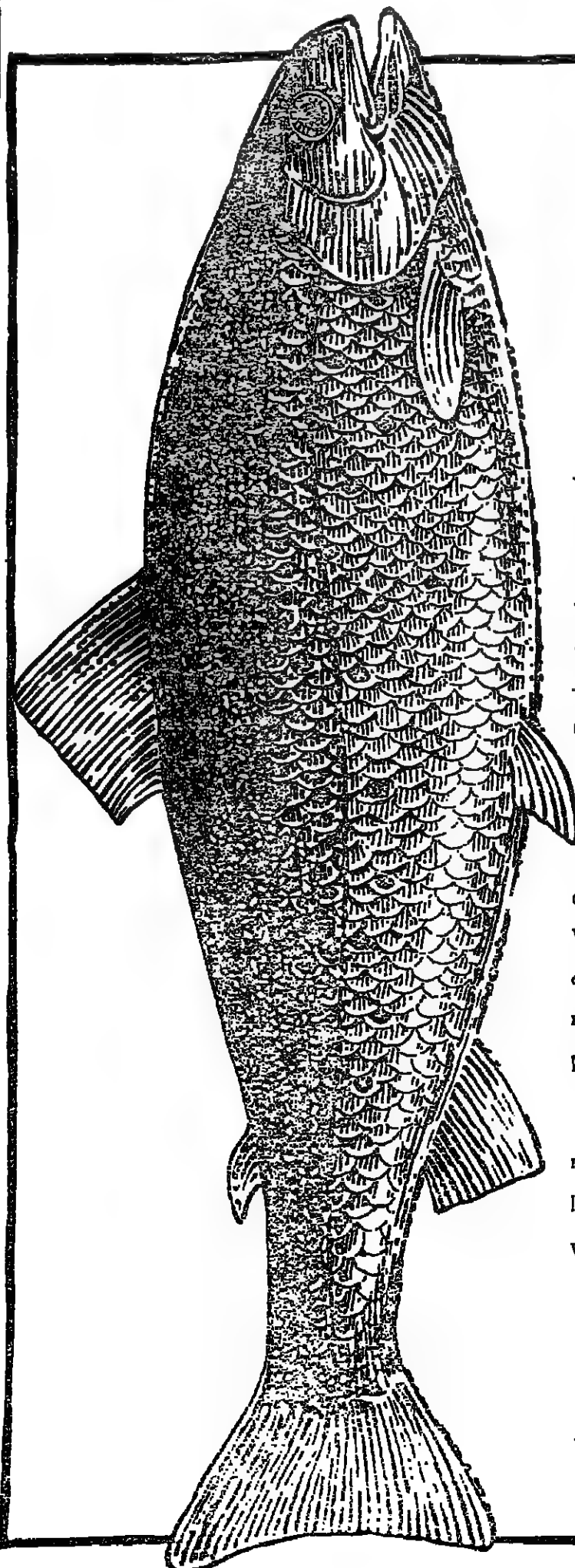
But that's not all - tourism and agriculture also get the benefit of our resources, acknowledging their past and future importance in the region.

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WELSH WATER WORKS



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ARTS

CINEMA

Whatever happened to women's lib?

Geoff Brown argues that Hollywood's present vogue for remakes is inexplicably giving new life to old sexual stereotypes

As Bette Midler declared, upon reading the script of her latest film, *Stella*: "You can't get through it without sobbing your eyes out." Rubbing the eyes, but more in disbelief than sorrow, might be a general reaction when the film opens in London on Friday. As the world strides headlong toward the 21st century, film audiences are to be faced with a modern heroine so consumed by the flames of self-sacrifice that she denies herself her beloved daughter, pushing the girl into the arms of a fairy-tale life completely beyond her own vulgar reach.

Whatever happened to the hard-fought achievements of equal rights activists? Where is the liberated, independent woman? She has vanished, sucked into the swamp of *Stella Dallas*—a 1922 novel by Mrs Olive Higgins Prouty, heavily clogged with period attitudes about class, money, and a woman's goals.

For a time the property led a charmed life, on Broadway, on radio, and in the movies. In 1923 and 1937, Samuel Goldwyn enjoyed two of his biggest hits with this story of rampaging mother-love. By the late Thirties Mrs Prouty's storylines already appeared dusty, though Barbara Stanwyck's performance as the low-life mother sacrificing her child on high society's altar temporarily dynamited the plot back to life; for her pains Stanwyck even won an Oscar nomination. Over 50 years later, however, *Stella* has become a grotesque archaeological specimen. Who needs a third cinema remake?

Who, indeed, needs most of the remakes currently stalking the cinema? A plague is abroad. This year alone, the 1943 fantasy *A Guy Named Joe* emerged under the guise of Steven Spielberg's *Always*. The director Neil Jordan and writer David Mamet have resurrected the 1955 convict-on-the-run comedy *We're No Angels*.



Image of the self-sacrificing mother: Bette Midler (left) in *Stella Dallas*, one of the many remakes on release. Barbara Stanwyck (right) took the same role in the 1930s production

While Michael Cimino is about to unleash a new edition of a far grimmer tale about escaped prisoners, *The Desperate Hours*. These remakes merely the American properties; 12 French films are in the pipeline, despite the varied fortunes of previous transmutations, where Gallic soufflés emerged as lumpy American stew. Why all this beaver among the past? In the lengthening shadows of cinema history, are filmgoers beginning to witness the establishment of a repertoire of classics that deserve re-interpretation, in the way that plays and operas regularly receive new stagings? This cannot be. A theatrical work is only properly resurrected by a fresh production, whereas the film that gets remade often still exists, to be enjoyed in revival houses or on television. A film is more of an organic whole than a play, less susceptible to the processes of re-creation.

Unless a maverick director roams unfettered, the author's text serves as a stage production's lynch-pin; a film script merely provides the springboard. Most of the recent remake crop, moreover, cannot be categorised as hard-core classics. *We're No Angels* wasted Humphrey Bogart, Peter Ustinov and company in lame hi-jinks, while the whimsical wartime fantasy of *A Guy Named Joe* curdled some people's blood even at the time. Neither new version found box-office success.

The reasons behind the remake plague must be sought elsewhere: in economics, laziness, force of habit, or wayward spurts of inspiration. Past hit properties, sitting prettily in a studio's files, can look tempting to film-makers anxious to mount a production without the risks of an original script by an untied writer. Package deals can be lucratively arranged: at least four of the French

films due for translation were rounded up by a single producer, Frederick Goichan, who then placed them with various Hollywood stars and studios.

In the case of *Stella Dallas*, one can at least see the project's attraction for Bette Midler. Here was another histrionic showcase to rival her last film, *Beaches*—itself a modern-day version of an old Hollywood weeper. As the new look *Stella*, a self-sacrificing bartender and single parent, she could mix a heady cocktail of wisecracks and tears, yanking the audience to the effulgent melodrama of the final scene, where, impeccably bedraggled, she peers through the windows at her daughter's socialite wedding. But for the melodrama to work, audiences must feel sympathy for *Stella*'s plight. An unhelpful script and the ravages of time conspire to make this impossible.

Hollywood remakes, of course, are nothing new. Warner in the Thirties was famous for repackaging its main pictures as sprightly supporting features. In the Fifties Universal dressed up its backlog of weepies in a riot of succulent colours. More recently, television movie producers have cranked out pale imitations of famous titles for audiences old enough to remember the originals: *Johnny Belinda*, *The Corn Is Green*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*. There is even *High Noon Part II*.

But younger cinema-goers, by and large, have no cushion of Hollywood nostalgia to lean on: they come to the remakes armed only with their spiky modern sensibilities. Had *Stella* been a television movie—the director, John Erman, is a veteran of the genre—it could have slid quietly and cosily into the schedules. Thrust on to the big screen, the film glares down like a basilisk.

Besides their tendency to built-in obsolescence, remakes carry a further danger: they make the single, unique film seem more than ever an endangered species. A visit to the cinema or video shop is beginning to resemble a visit to a supermarket, where the shelves groan with minute variations of the same basic product, and ubiquitous brand-names rule the roost. Whole aisles contain nothing but sequels.

As the product shrinks, the format multiplies. Soon, in this cinema supermarket, the punter will be able to buy *Stella Dallas* in an assortment of sizes, strengths and remakes. But nowhere will be the film noisepail—the precious work of art that cannot be repackaged to suit another decade's whims.

● *Stella* (15) opens in London at the Odeon Haymarket (071-539 7697) on Friday.

ROCK

Hammer delivers several sharp hits

Steve Turner talks to M C Hammer, whose rap album has topped the US charts for 13 weeks

When asked "Are you trying to be the Michael Jackson of rap?", M C Hammer, sweating it out after a show at the Baltimore Arena and half watching a documentary about himself on a large screen, smiles a none-too-modest smile. "Sort of," he answers. "Actually, they don't say 'of rap' now. It's just M C Hammer, who plays M C Hammer music."

Most rap, like most punk, is too angry and melodically deficient to conquer the mass market. So M C Hammer took the innovations of rap—the rat-a-tat-tat half-spoken vocals, the scratching and sampling—and presented them in the old-fashioned style of a soul revue with plenty of sequins, dancing girls, audience participation and an uplifting message.

The move has been commercially successful. His second album, *Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em*, has been one of America's best selling, and his summer album's single, "U Can't Touch This", almost made it to number one in Britain. Last year *Billboard* magazine voted him the top rap artist, and he is featured in the soundtrack of the film *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (released in Britain in November).

Not all rappers are delighted by this success. His show, which involves ten dancers, ten singers and ten musicians in 75 minutes of non-stop action, owes more to Las Vegas than it does to the ghettoes, and his messages of prayer contrast with the confrontational black politics of such acts as Ice Cube, NWA (Niggers With Attitude) and Public Enemy.

"I compare the success of M C Hammer with the success of John Travolta in *Saturday Night Fever*," commented Doctor Dre of NWA at the recent New Music Seminar in New York. "Everyone knows that after that film came out, disco music died."

This acid comment has already been passed on to Hammer. "It's just the effect of me being so popular and being loved by so many people," he explains modestly. "The rap artists who wanted this kind of fame and success can't comprehend it. It dumbfounds them that M C Hammer, who is not from where rap originated and who is not sticking to the limited form they present the art in, is doing ten times better."

Hammer—real name Kirk Burrell—is from Oakland, California, and his musical aspira-



Stinger M C Hammer: "In terms of showmanship, rap was prehistoric"

tions pre-date rap. He was initially impressed by soul-funk acts such as Parliament, Funkadelic and Earth Wind and Fire, which came to prominence in the late 1970s.

"Then rap came along and it was a great new form of music," he says. "But in terms of showmanship, rap was prehistoric. I was used to seeing people like the Temptations who put on a nice big show, and that is the way I present my music."

On stage Hammer is either acting as a macho man or the moral example for young reasonably-minded blacks. He sternly warns against the evil of drugs, and advises that "if you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

When he started rapping it was exclusively on religious themes and he still stresses the importance of the church in his life. But there is a tension between this evocation and his stage show which promotes an unbridled *Folies Bergère* view of sexuality.

This kind of tension was exploited before him by black singers such as Marvin Gaye and

Prince, who made it into the substance of their art. "It's a very humanistic, earthly side of M C Hammer," he says. "That's one of the things that my public is really able to relate to. I don't try to be angelic. I don't say that I'm perfect." Doesn't he, as a Christian, have a problem justifying this erotic showmanship? "Er... I would say that extremists would have a problem with it," he says. "I would have a problem with being over indulgent, but I don't have a problem with the sexy presentation, because the inner man is more important than the outer man. If you are walking along that 'narrow way', that shouldn't shake you."

One of his songs, "Let's Go Deeper", plays the sexual connotation of the title off against its spiritual connotation, the funk against the gospel. "It's a fight between the man who wants to go one place, and the other side of him which is always saying 'forget all that and go get some women'," he admits. "In 'Let's Go Deeper' the two of them finally come head to head."

Rap music is as frequently criticised for its lack of variation as it is praised for its vitality. It could do with stretching and blending, the way that The Rolling Stones stretched urban blues and made it the music of a generation.

"U Can't Touch This" suggested that M C Hammer might be the man to make the transition but, judging from his stage-show, he lacks the musical creative genius to do it. The furious dancing, the sparking Aladdin pants and the fireworks seem to be devices to distract attention from the stender nature of the sound.

Could he be rap's Pat Boone rather than its Mick Jagger? Could he be adding sugar to rap in the way that Boone made Fats Domino palatable for white teenagers and white-owned radio stations? "There's nothing sweet about 'Put Me in a Mix' or 'Turn This Mother Out' or 'Let's Get Started'," argues Hammer. "They're very hard, energetic songs. I'm not sweetening the music. I'm just doing it my way. 'You see, rap is from the heart. It's presented by each person according to the way they feel the music. This is the way I feel it. It's not watered down—it's Hammer style.'"

● "Have you seen Her", M C Hammer's latest single, will be released this month.

THEATRE: CHICHESTER

Scenes from an island

German actress and director Rita Russek on Ingmar Bergman and his play, *Scenes from a Marriage*

I worked for Ingmar Bergman over a period of ten years when he was a director of the Residenztheater in Munich. I came out of that period feeling very different. The rest of the company did, too. The difference is that once an actor has worked with Bergman, he or she will not put up with the humiliations imposed by lesser directors ever again, because the Swedish director gives actors self-confidence and self-awareness. When actors do not have to struggle with anger, humiliation and fear of authority, then they are in the position to delve deep into their work and their experiences. When they are embraced by that Bergmanesque confidence, friendship, love and interest, they feel like saying "Now, where's my throne?" That is the feeling you get from working with Bergman.

Ingmar Bergman came to Munich in 1976, during a period when he was in voluntary exile from Sweden, fleeing from a tax scandal from which he was later cleared. He saw me in a play by Arthur Schnitzler, *Liehelei*, and he asked me to play Emire in *Taruffe*. By the time he left Munich in 1986, I had played five parts for him. At that point, we decided to mount a new production of his play, *Scenes from a Marriage*, which had first been seen in Munich in 1981. But since Bergman wanted to return to Sweden we decided to rehearse the play there. I went to Faro, the remote island where he lives, to discuss a new adaptation which would present only the two central characters. It is this version that is opening at Chichester with Alan Howard and Penny Downie playing Johan and Marianne.

When I arrived on the island Bergman was standing outside the front of his modest house, waiting. That is typical of him. In England waiting means looking at your watch and wondering when someone is going to turn up. But Bergman is always waiting, in the sense of expecting. If rehearsals start at ten o'clock he will always be there a quarter of an hour earlier. The implication is that he is waiting for you, and that nothing could be more important. We started rehearsing on the island the following year, living in a barn that he had renovated.

Final rehearsals were held in Lichtenstein, where the play opened. Bergman rarely leaves Faro so we were amazed when he came to see the production. Over the next four years, I played Marianne in *Scenes from a Marriage* over 100 times. Then I started to receive letters from Tel Aviv, Moscow, Amsterdam and Australia asking about the play. I rang Bergman and said: "Ingmar, what is this? I'm not your private secretary! Why am I getting these letters?" He replied: "If you can't play it, because it's in another

language, you must direct it." Then I got a call from Michael Rudman at Chichester asking me to direct it in English. So here I am.

This is the first time I have directed the play. Alan Howard and Penny Downie are two very good actors, but directing two people all the time is very exhausting. It is easier to say "I want 50 soldiers coming in from the left, I want music now, and here comes the curtain."

Although Penny is a completely different type to me, born in another culture, quite often she has had nearly exactly the same reaction to the play as I had. The same is true with Alan. So there is obviously some central truth in the characters that Bergman created, something that everybody understands. I hope so.

● *Scenes from a Marriage* opens at the Minerva Studio Theatre, Chichester, tonight (0243 81112).

BRIEFING

Reunion of original guys

ONE of the National Theatre's most acclaimed productions of the past decade, Richard Eyre's 1982 staging of Loesser's musical *Guns and Dolls*, is making a comeback for one performance only at the Olivier Theatre on November 11. The evening, which will benefit various AIDS charities, pays tribute to the production's original leading man, Ian Charleson, who died of AIDS last January. Paul Jones is taking the part of Sky Masterson, which Charleson originally played, while the remainder of the original quartet—Bob Hoskins, Julia McKenzie and Julie Covington—are expected to reprise their roles. So, too, is David Healy, whose show-stopping rendition of "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat" made this American actor's reputation in Britain.

The one-night revival will also offer a fascinating guide to the career progress of some of the show's alumni. For instance, the current co-star of *Into the Woods*, Imelda Staunton, will take the subordinate role she had eight years ago, as one of Miss Adelaide's Hot Box girls. Her real-life husband, Jim Carter, will be on hand to play Big Jule.

Amadeus in bulk

THE music industry is gearing up for some stupendous feats in anticipation of the 200th anniversary of Mozart's death (December 5, 1791). Few enterprises, however, will rival the Complete Mozart Edition being released by the record company Philips. It comprises every minute of his 675 works: some 200 hours of music.

Launched yesterday, the Edition consists of 180 discs arranged in 45 volumes. To buy the whole lot will cost the avid Mozartian about £1,400. The 45 volumes will be released over 14 months starting this week. Although the recordings come mainly from the existing Philips catalogue, the record company is promising a new recording of Mozart's unfinished one-act comic opera *L'Osca del Cairo*.

Tenors' triumph

YESTERDAY José Carreras, Plácido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti pushed Prince and Elton John off the top of the pop charts. The recording of the three tenors' World Cup concert, which went straight to No 2 on its release last week, cruised to the top of this week's Gallup/Music Week charts, and is likely to reach platinum (300,000 sales) within a few weeks. It has now sold 1.6 million discs worldwide.

Last chance

THE dry summer may be cursed by gardeners, but it has given the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park one of its most successful seasons. Indeed, it now appears that this newspaper's June headline over a review of *Julius Caesar*—"Lend me your ear-muffs"—was unnecessarily gloomy. The 1990 season comes to an end on Saturday, with the last performance of *The Fantasticks* this evening (before it embarks on a six-week countrywide tour). *Julius Caesar* finishing on Thursday, and *Much Ado About Nothing* ending on Saturday (071-486 2431).

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RADIO

Corrupt tale of child love

SANDWICHED between Britten and Shostakovich, *First Love* (Radio 3, Wednesday) offered a twenty-minute excursion from the Royal Albert Hall to the "palpitating place" of Biarritz. Proms breaks are rarely so generous in their itinerary. Sketching a fervent romance between chaperoned ten-year-olds one Edwardian summer, Nabokov's short story is the *locus classicus* of all downy forearms and hot girlish ringlets; it is the autobiographical "confession" that is missing from the pre-war *The Enchanter* but which tees up—in an even more rapturous fashion—Lolita.

If concert fans are permitted to attend with the score in their laps, Nabokovians must be allowed to monitor seminal texts when they are broadcast. The peerless evocation of the Nord Express with which the story opens contains a glittering boy's-eye view of the luxurious motion, from the exact fenestration of the carriages to the "triumphant swoop of pathetic elation" of the passing telegraph wires. This consumes more pages of the published text than does the "affair" with Colette, and is essential in that it furnishes a

template for the latter: the shock of pre-pubescent love impinges on a consciousness steeped in the childish observation of the world.

I mention these trifles only because they were missing from the script that Hugh Dickson had been given to read in his rather quivering manner—indeed, entire paragraphs were abandoned on the studio floor. One would not monkey with a Mozart quintet, at least not without informing the listener of the abridgement, and one tinkers with Vlad the Impaler at one's peril. But the final sentence, as broadcast, was persuasion enough that my 1960 Penguin is crucially corrupt. Meeting Colette for the last time in a Paris park, the narrator's eye latches on to "some detail in her attire... that reminded me then of the rainbow spiral in a glass marble. I still seem to be holding that wisp of indecency, now knowing exactly where to fit it," which makes equal, if diametrically contradictory, sense.

Sense is very much in short supply on the current cult listening station, Radio Baghdad, which can

be accessed from 9pm onwards a little shy of 40,000 MHz on the short wave. One has to negotiate a veritable Babel to find it, and the signal is subject to operatic swoops worthy of the Radiophonic Workshop, but it is certainly worth the effort. The announcer's English is mainly competent, although he chops up his sentences into bite-sized chunks. Informing the world of the huge anti-war protests that have (apparently) filled the streets of London and New York, he claimed that "the American-TV-net-works ignore such demonstrations".

In this Dialekt, the United States comes across as little short of hell. "Millions of Americans are home less and starving-to-death... sleep-in-in-the-streets-and-eat-ing-from-the-trash." The audience must assume that the announcer's microphone is free-standing, leaving one of his hands available to dangle a carrot and the other to wield a thumping great stick. The next time I have lunch with the home secretary I shall raise the desirability of having these broadcasts jammed.

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Russians throw down gauntlet to the Kremlin over economy

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

LEADERS of the Russian Federation yesterday threw down their gauntlet to the central Soviet government, insisting that they would press ahead with a programme of rapid economic decentralisation regardless of whether agreement was reached with Moscow. The Russian president, Boris Yeltsin, and his prime minister, Ivan Silayev, said that major points of conflict still existed between Russia and the central authorities on the demarcation of responsibilities.

In the Kremlin, meanwhile, President Gorbachev made it clear that he intended to retain central control by naming three members of existing central bodies to handle implementation of particularly sensitive areas of the economy. Deputy premier Lev Voronin takes responsibility for ensuring the successful completion of the harvest, preparations for winter and remedying supply problems in cities and industrial centres.

Deputy premier Yuri Masluykov, who is also head of the State Planning Committee (Gosplan), is entrusted with ensuring that contracts between enterprises are honoured in the coming year, and Mr Gorbachev's chief ally, Aleksandr Yakovlev, who is a member of the Presidential Council, is to review relations between central and republic-level institutions in matters relating to law and order. The three new appointments indicate the Soviet leadership's concern about the nationwide collapse of economic structures. They also represent an attempt by President Gorbachev to retain central control over a situation fast slipping out of his grasp.

Opening the Russian parliament, the Supreme Soviet, Mr Yeltsin, said that his three-week tour of Russia, which took him to the Urals, the mines of the far north and the Pacific coast, had convinced him that there were almost no prosperous regions left in the country. "Living standards continue to fall," he said. Mr Yeltsin said that the draft of the Russian programme for the switch

to a market economy, known as the "500 days" programme, should become the basis of an inter-republic economic agreement. He said he hoped the determination of Russia to implement radical measures might nudge the centre into more decisive action.

The "500 days" programme, originally drafted by Mr Yeltsin's economic advisers for the Russian Federation alone, has been adapted for nationwide application over the past month by a working group headed by Stanislav Shatalin, one of President Gorbachev's chief advisers. The Shatalin group, whose work was overseen jointly by Mr Gorbachev and Mr Yeltsin, has been competing with the Soviet government's team to produce the single programme for presentation to the Soviet parliament next week.

The Russian prime minister yesterday set out the main provisions of the "Shatalin" or "500 days" programme, specifying how they differed from the central government's proposals. Although summaries of the "500 days" many of them speculative, had been published before, this was the first time any detail had been given, and some of the 250 deputies seemed shocked by the speed and apparent risks.

There was a rumble of disapproval when Mr Silayev said that the programme would make everyone personally responsible for their own well-being and that of their families. They would be given the opportunities and then "work will be the best guarantee of living standards and prosperity".

Key proposals include a 1½ year period of "stabilization", during which the legislative basis of the market economy is to be laid. That period is to include massive sell-offs of state property, the gradual freeing of most prices — except "essentials" — and strict controls on credit and the money supply to strengthen the rouble. Legislation scheduled for this Russian parliamentary session includes provision for small farms and private property.

Mr Silayev said that the "500 days" stipulated the republic as the main unit for economic legislation, with only limited powers delegated to the centre. The republic would have the authority to set prices, and the annual budget. The centre would monitor inter-republic ties and oversee customs and border regulations.

He said the programme proposed an inter-republic economic committee to oversee implementation nationwide. There would be hefty cuts in spending on defence, the KGB and capital construction. This is the first time cuts have been specified in the KGB.



Yeltsin yesterday: living standards continue to fall



Tribal greeting: Pope John Paul II being welcomed to Songea, in southern Tanzania, by Ngoni dancers. He urged Africans to rise above poverty, corruption and injustice blighting the continent during a mass yesterday (AFP reports from Songea). The Pope, visiting this isolated town on the Mozambique border on the third day of his ten-day African tour, told a crowd of 25,000 that many developing

countries had lost the optimism of the early days after independence from colonial rule. The failure of development was evident in continuing hunger and malnutrition, the plight of refugees, and the lack of health care, he said. Many problems could be solved if there was a new attitude, diametrically opposed to a desire for profit and thirst for power, he said, calling for commitment to solidarity.

Desperation and fear in the camps

Continued from page 1

Much on the Jordanian authorities, who evidently have few resources, but on their own governments. "No one has been to see us since we came two weeks ago," an Indian woman said with tears in her eyes as a great crowd pressed around us, desperate for proof that someone was taking notice of them. Many had towels on their heads as protection from the sun. "There is hardly any food or water," the woman said. "We are dying and none of the diplomats in Amman has come to see us. I cannot understand it."

Refugees from the Indian sub-continent, the Philippines and Thailand held out grubby pieces of paper bearing messages for their families, pleading with us to telephone or telex them and get help.

Most of the refugees are living in makeshift tents made of bed-spreads, with piled-up suitcases for support. A few, the more fortunate, have battered cars alongside the encampment. Rotting garbage lies between the tents. Even now, torn by the heat and the lack of water, the

Asian refugees — many of them educated middle-class professionals bewildered by their fate — retain an air of civility and decency. "But I fear there will soon be a breakdown of morals," an Indian computer engineer said. "Please ask our governments to do something." As we spoke, suitcases were already breaking out at a queue where exhausted Asian women were fighting for a trickle of water from a newly arrived water tank.

When night falls, violence breaks out, with desperate refugees using stones and knives. "The nights are the worst," one Swiss doctor said. "The very cold nights coming after intense heat naturally cause illness. Then there are the scorpions."

Shaanan camp holds some 40,000 people — the authorities are unsure of the exact number — and another camp nearby, dubbed Shaalan 2, holds some 20,000. The customs post at Ruweisah is beginning to return to normal as officials slowly process the stream of refugees and send them to Amman for flights home. On the way to the border I passed a long

line of buses and cars travelling the other way, their roof-racks piled high with precarious mountains of suitcases, bags, carpets, pots and pans.

But most refugees are penned up in the transit camps in the no man's land between Ruweisah and the Iraqi frontier. Some, including a large group of Sri Lankans, have air tickets, visas and money to get home, yet cannot leave the camp, which is guarded by soldiers.

Others are destitute, and have no hope of getting out unless their own governments organise an airlift. "There is no one in charge here," said Saifur Surti, a 28-year-old exchange dealer. "I left everything in Kuwait City, and only had time to draw a little cash from the bank."

He said he had hesitated before making for the border because many who had done so had died in the attempt. "A lot of bodies came back to Kuwait City," Mr Surti said. He said one Pakistani man had taken his family to the border with Jordan, only to have his wife raped by Iraqi soldiers and his two teenage daughters abducted.

Another 50-year-old Indian engineer said he did not even have documents to prove who he was because he was a British passport holder "and it is not wise to be British in Iraq. I hid the passport and left it. I have no money, no documents, no food."

Jordanian officials said that the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation, which describes the situation in the refugee camps as "dangerous", had been asked to step up its help. UNRDO officials said that, unless evacuees were airlifted out soon, "the situation will be out of control".

Crown Prince Hassan yesterday repeated his urgent appeal for aid, saying conditions in the camps were intolerable. The director of the health department, Dr Atallah Assad, said the refugees were living in sub-human conditions and only 18 "sanitary units" were available at Shaalan 1. He said it was only a matter of time before disease spread into an epidemic. Jordanian officials said the world community had promised millions of dollars in aid, "but in reality we have hardly seen a penny of it".

Syria and Libya blamed for bomb

Continued from page 1
people. A similar bomb to the one on UTA Flight 772, also packed in a Samsonite suitcase, was found on a Jibril terrorist, Habib Maamar, arrested in France after planting bombs in 1984 and 1985 at the Leumi Bank and Marks & Spencer in Paris, killing one person and injuring 18.

French sources believe that the destruction of Flight 772 was a warning to France from President Assad. Syria was furious with what President Assad saw as French interference in Lebanon in 1989 when the French backed General Michel Aoun's Christian army against the Syrians and the Lebanese Muslims, including the Iran-linked Hezbollah terrorists — the so-called Party of God responsible for the Rue de Rennes blast.

The Brazzaville-Paris flight was selected as a target for a number of reasons. Airport security in the Congo is virtually non-existent and the touchdown at Ndjamena would allow the bomb-carrier to disembark.

Colonel Gadafi had a perfect courier — Mr Mangatany, who was opposed to the Congolese regime and had been a guest of Colonel Gadafi in Libya in January 1989. Flight 772 on September 19 was picked for another reason: booked on it was the head of the Libyan opposition in exile — Yusuf al-Magari, leader of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya.

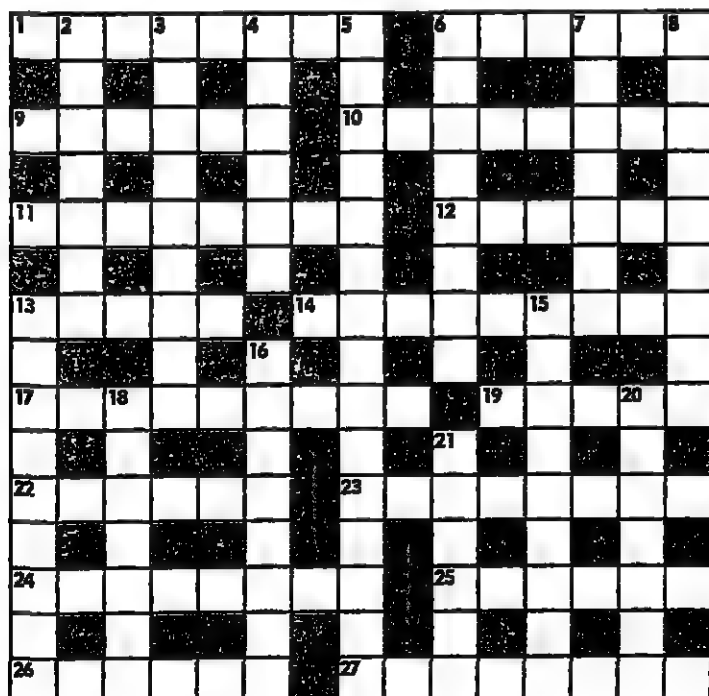
The attack was carried out by Mr Mangatany and an associate named Mr N'Gala, now known to be in Zaire. The pentharite and the sophisticated detonator are believed to have been taken into the Congo in late August 1989 in the Libyan diplomatic bag.

At the same time, the Libyan People's Bureau in Brazzaville gained a new "diplomat" — Abdallah Elazrag — in reality, one of Colonel Gadafi's top bomb-makers. He and two others oversaw the assembly of the bomb, which was packed into the Samsonite suitcase. Mr Elazrag left the Congo on the same day that the UTA plane was blown up. Mr Mangatany was told that the bomb would explode while the DC10 was empty on the runway during the stopover in Chad. In fact, the Libyans knew that Flight 772 would not be empty until it reached Paris and the bomb was primed to explode after take-off from Ndjamena, high above the sands of the Tenere desert in Niger.

Although Mr Mangatany's family, living in a quiet suburb of Brazzaville, say that he died in the explosion, none of the remains identified were his. And why, Mr Bruguière must have asked himself, would anyone stay on board a plane knowing that a bomb was about to explode? There seems little doubt that Mr Mangatany was among the nine Congolese nationals who left the aircraft in Chad, of whom only five have ever been traced.

One other lucky individual that day was Yusuf al-Magari. He never checked in for Flight 772.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,390



ACROSS
1 Girl introducing Mahler's First has the right instrument (8).
6 Like the Cornish student involved in a church movement (6).
9 Unoccupied state prison beside square (6).
10 Criminal causing anxiety in a country many abandoned (8).
11 Fellow gets the sack — it protects the lower members (8).
12 Bank messenger engaged in smuggling? (6).
13 Part of buffet identified as malodorous (5).
14 Servant giving king or queen help when crossing river (9).
17 Hoogans meeting carrier may be thus over-ridden (9).
19 The fish-server's share (5).
22 Wild bear is located in Yugoslavia (6).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,389

BOOTS PERISCOPE
A VOLVO
TRENTANT UNCLE
TRENCH
LETHAL GRASSHOPPER
EUBA
CUDGIL
VULGAR
YELP
COUNTERACT
LINT
MAINTAIN STATER
A A S L I H Q
PANEL HEADSTONE
L C I E R N O R E T

23 Reviving friend participating in boxing match? (8).
24 A driver, perhaps, where drivers are regularly employed (4-4).
25 Sound modification made by yobbo, say, with hesitation (6).
26 To bring back the cat is a bit of a gamble (4-2).
27 They dig up outdated blood groups, say (8).
DOWN
2 Obnoxious of a conflict in a French setting (7).
3 First-rate fish has crisp brown skin (9).
4 Proposal to direct by gesture (6).
5 Title of a baron very like Brutus (5,10).
6 Company keeps torn letters for comparison (8).
7 Fairy queen, one a giant overlooked (7).
8 Round conveyance on narrow hill-top (9).
13 Presence not initially great in Arden, perhaps (9).
15 It's spoken in Kerala, whichever way you look at it (9).
16 Greek writer without a sense of vocation consumed seafood (8).
18 Opens out, making university new catalogues (7).
20 In hand-to-hand combat, they say, the shell has to win (7).
21 Hustle discomposed Holmes, for one (6).

Concise Crossword, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?
By Philip Howard

- FEBRILE**
a. Feminine
b. Feverish
c. Easily broken
- OATSY**
a. Porridge scones
b. Full of beans
c. An oasthouse
- POLARCE**
a. The polka
b. To polaxe
c. A three-masted vessel
- GOURDS**
a. Loaded dice
b. Lights out at Harrow
c. Turkish light cavalry

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circles)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T. A22	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Much of England, Wales and Northern Ireland will have sunny intervals and showers. Most of the showers will be in the north-west, with some well-sheltered areas staying dry. As the day goes on, the showers will tend to die away with many places dry by nightfall. Scotland will also have showers and some bright or sunny intervals. Temperatures near normal. Outlook: Sunny spells and showers.

ABROAD

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	28	82	Majorca	28	82
Akrotiri	28	82	Malaga	27	81
Alexandria	28	82	Madrid	28	82
Algiers	28	82	Melilla	28	82
Amman	27	81	Moscow	21	70
Antwerp	27	81	Munich	21	70
Bahia	30	86	Nice	24	75
Bahra	30	86	Paris	24	75
Barcelona	27	81	Rome	24	75
Bombay	27	81	Seville	24	75
Buenos Aires	27	81	St. Petersburg	24	75
Calcutta	27	81	Tel Aviv	24	75
Cairo	34	93	Yokohama	24	75
Cape Town	18	64			
Chennai	27	81			
Chicago	27	81			
Cologne	27	81			
Copenhagen	15	59			
Dublin	18	64			
Dusseldorf	27	81			
Edinburgh	27	81			
Fairford	27	81			
Florence	27	81			
Frankfurt	27	81			
Garmisch	27	81			
Geneva	27	81			
Hamburg	27	81			
Helsinki	14	57			
Hong Kong	27	81			
Imbros	27	81			
Isle of Man	27	81			
Jeddah	27	81			
Jerusalem	27	81			
Karachi	30	86			
La Paz	27	81			
La Touche	27	81			
London	27	81			
Luxembourg	27	81			
Lyon	27	81			
Madrid	28	82			

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Mon	Tues
Scarborough	4.4	23	73
Hull	4.4	23	73
London	4.4	23	73
Manchester	4.4	23	73
Cardiff	4.4	23	73
Belfast	4.4	23	73
Edinburgh	4.4	23	73
Glasgow	4.4	23	73
Sheffield	4.4	23	73
Nottingham	4.4	23	73
Leeds	4.4	23	73
Sheff	4.4	23	73
Cardiff	4.4	23	73
Belfast	4.4	23	73
Edinburgh	4.4	23	73
Glasgow	4.4	23	73
Sheffield	4.4	23	73
Nottingham	4.4	23	73
Leeds	4.4	23	73
Sheff	4.4	23	73

Figures are latest available

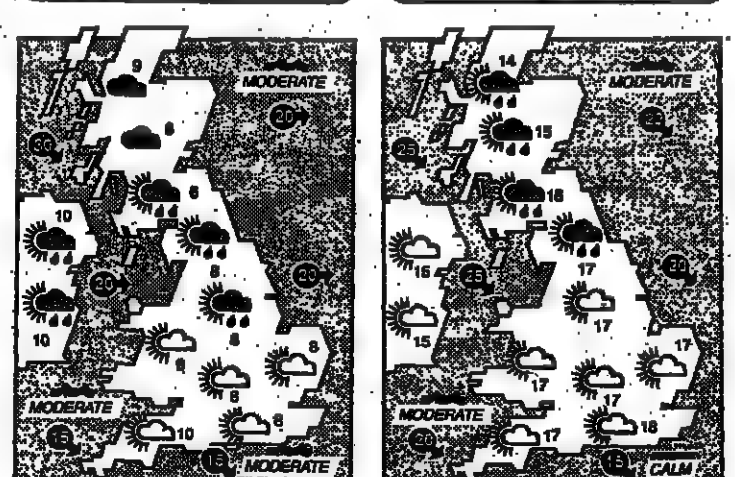
TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0888 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Devon & Cornwall	703
Wiltshire, Dorset, Avon, Somerset	704
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxon	705
Gloucestershire & Wiltshire	706
Northampton & Bedford	707
West Midlands & Shropshire	708
Shropshire, Hereford & Worcester	709
Central Midlands	710
East Midlands	711
Lincoln & Humberside	712
Dyfed & Powys	713
Gwynedd & Clwyd	714
N.W. England	715
N.E. England	716
Cumbria & Lake District	717
S.W. Scotland	718
W. Central Scotland	719
Edin S. Fife/Lothian & Borders	720
C. Central Scotland	721
Grampian & E. Highlands	722
N.W. Scotland	723
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	724
N. Ireland	725

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

AM PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 7.41 pm to 5.19 am
Bristol 7.51 pm to 5.29 am
Edinburgh 8.00 pm to 5.34 am
Manchester 7.52 pm to 5.24 am
Penzance 8.01 pm to 5.42 am

Sun rises: 6.17 am
Sun sets: 7.41 pm

Moon sets: 5.25 am
Moon rises: 7.15 pm

Full Moon tomorrow

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloud; f, rain; s, sun.

Belfast 17.6° f 6.1° f
Birmingham 18.6° f 6.1° f
Bristol 20.6° f 6.1° f
Cardiff 19.6° f 6.1° f
Edinburgh 18.6° f 6.1° f
Glasgow 18.6° f 6.1° f
London 23.6° f 6.1° f
Manchester 18.6° f 6.1° f
Penzance 18.6° f 6.1° f

TOWER BRIDGE

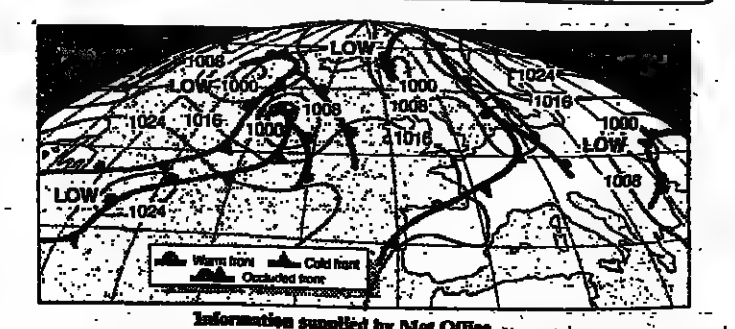
Tower Bridge will be lifted at 1.30pm today.

HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.06	6.9	2.20	6.8
Abbeville	1.17	4.1	3.57	4.0
Avonmouth	7.26	12.1	7.48	12.7
Belfast	11.24	3.1	11.33	3.4
Bristol	7.17	11.2	7.34	11.7
Cardiff	6.25	5.2	6.40	5.5
Cheney	11.27	6.4	11.44	6.4
Falmouth	5.55	5.0	6.10	5.5
Glasgow	1.13	4.7	1.29	4.5
Hartlepool	12.04	3.7	12.16	3.8
Holyhead	10.48	5.2	10.58	5.8
Leamington	8.53	7.1	7.06	7.0
Lough	8.22	8.8	8.38	8.8
London	6.43	6.3	7.20	6.3
Lytham	2.47	3.2	3.22	3.3

Tide in metres 1m=3.28084. Times are BST

NOON TODAY



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BUSINESS

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Too early to discuss business says RUG

ANDREW Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group yesterday extended its condolences to the widow of Robert Holmes & Court, the Australian businessman who died at the weekend (Gillian Bowditch writes). Mr Holmes & Court, who had a 6.5 per cent stake in RUG, had been thwarting Mr Lloyd Webber's attempt to take his company private and the two had been portrayed as business rivals.

Patrick McKenna, a director of RUG, said: "It is far too premature to discuss business matters in light of the family's grief. I have had the opportunity in recent months of getting to know Mr Holmes & Court and am deeply shocked and saddened."

Mr McKenna said the relationship between Mr Holmes & Court and Mr Lloyd Webber had been cordial. Mr Lloyd Webber's buyout vehicle, Jorriban No 26, has 92 per cent of RUG and was attempting to persuade Mr Holmes & Court to accept the 23.3p a share offer to others.

Mr McKenna said: "Whilst our offer for RUG has officially closed, we now own 92 per cent of the shares and of course remain interested in acquiring all minority shareholdings in view of our stated intention to fully privatise RUG. The delisting process is already under way with the stock exchange."

The decision whether to sell the stake in RUG is for Janet Holmes & Court, Mr Holmes & Court's widow. But Mr Derek Williams, chief executive of Heytesbury UK, Mr Holmes & Court's private British company, was reported as saying "Nothing is for sale" and the companies would be run as normal.

ASW payout up
ASW Holdings, the Cardiff steelmaker in which British Steel has a 20 per cent interest, is raising its interim dividend from 4p to 4.5p after reporting pre-tax profits of £21.1 million (£20.1 million). Turnover was £231.9 million (£235.1 million). Current trading is satisfactory, and cash balances stand at £16.5 million.

Tempos, page 23

THE POUND
US dollar 1.8720 (-0.0210)
W German mark 2.9843 (-0.0190)
Exchange index 94.3 (-0.7)

STOCK MARKET
FT 30 Share 1687.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2166.6 (+3.8)
New York Dow Jones Closed
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 25420.43 (-557.94)

Closing Prices ... Page 24
Major indices and major changes Page 25

INTEREST RATES
London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 14 1/2 to 14 3/4
3-month eligible bills 14 1/2 to 14 3/4
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8 1/4 to 8 1/2
3-month Treasury Bills 7 3/8 to 7 3/4
30-year bonds 9 7/8 to 9 7/4

CURRENCIES
London: New York
£ \$1 8720
£ DM2 9643
£ Sfr 2 4626
£ FF 6 9544
£ Yen 268 72
£ Index 94.3
ECU 0.65510
ECU 437.793

GOLD
London Fixing:
AM \$387.50 pm \$386.75
close \$386.75-387.25 (2206 25-206 75)
New York:
Comex \$382.70-383.20

NORTH SEA OIL
Brent (Oct 1) ... \$28.75bbl (\$26.40)
† Denotes Friday's close

TOURIST RATES
Austria \$ 2415
Australia \$ 2415
Belgium \$ 2415
Canada \$ 2415
Denmark \$ 2415
France \$ 2415
Germany \$ 2415
Greece \$ 2415
Hong Kong \$ 2415
Ireland \$ 2415
Japan \$ 2415
Netherlands \$ 2415
Norway \$ 2415
Portugal \$ 2415
South Africa \$ 2415
Spain \$ 2415
Sweden \$ 2415
Switzerland \$ 2415
Turkey \$ 2415
USA \$ 2415
Yugoslavia \$ 2415

Notes for small denomination bank only are supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers.
Retail Price Index: 128.8 (July)

Oil hits \$28.55 and sterling falls as hopes fade

By MARTIN BARROW

OIL prices climbed sharply yesterday as hopes faded of a diplomatic solution to tension in the Gulf.

In London, October Brent rose \$1.85 to \$28.55 a barrel in thin trading — its highest level since the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed new quotas — as dealers maintained their positions while tension rose again in the Middle East. New York was closed for Labor Day.

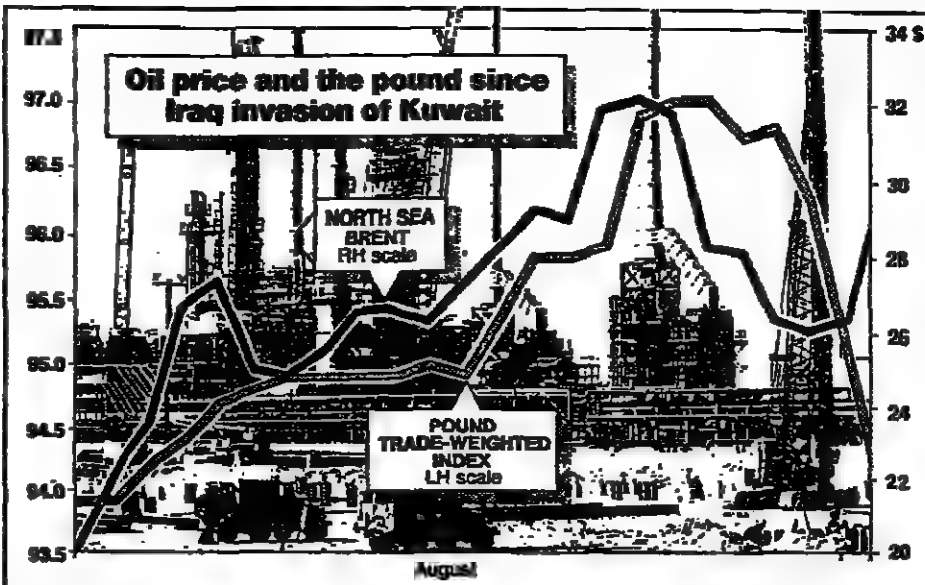
Petroleum products also rose sharply. The September contract for gasoil futures traded \$21 higher at \$262 a tonne.

Paul Spedding, an oil analyst at Kleinwort Benson Securities, said: "We had a phoney peace last week. Over the weekend it became clear

that Saddam Hussein was playing games with people's lives."

The oil market failed to find comfort in a report from the Middle East Economic Survey, suggesting that Saudi Arabia's crude oil production will average 7.65 million barrels a day in September, replacing more than half of the four million barrels lost as a result of the embargo on Iraq and Kuwait.

However, Mr Spedding forecast that Opec would find it difficult to make up the full amount lost through the embargo. "The west is heading towards the time of the year when oil companies would be looking to increase stocks. The market is going to become very tight," he said.



By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

STERLING tumbled further on the foreign exchanges, where virtually all the gains made since the invasion of Kuwait at the beginning of August have now been lost.

The pound was sold most strongly in the Far East yesterday, but recovered slightly in London. By the close, sterling had dropped more than 2 cents against the dollar to \$1.8705 and by 1.5 pence to DM2.9624.

The Bank of England's sterling index, which started August at 93.9 and peaked at 97 ten days ago, fell a further 0.7 points to 94.3, after touching 94.2 early in the morning.

The sharp August rise was geared closely to the rise in oil prices, which benefits Britain's balance of payments, in

contrast to the trade of all other leading currency countries. The August advance came at the end of a long steady recovery in the pound mark since a Budget-time low in March, sparked particularly by the government's new-found enthusiasm for fixing the currency within the European Monetary System.

That rally had appeared to be petering out before the invasion. The oil effect finally wore off after sterling's surge provoked worries about its effect on industry, leading to calls for lower interest rates, at a time when Japanese rates rose, and warnings that international economic uncertainty might delay entry into the exchange-rate mechanism.

Pöhl hard line over bank independence

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

KARL OTTO Pöhl, president of the German Bundesbank, has persuaded European Community central banks to take a hard line on the independence of a future European central bank.

This could undermine the political momentum for rapid European Monetary Union and a single currency by causing a rift between bankers and national governments.

In a speech to the free market Mont Pèlerin Society in Munich, Herr Pöhl, chairman of the committee of EC central bank governors, said: "The governors are of one mind on major issues. In particular, we are agreed that historical experience shows that monetary stability can best be expected of a system which is independent of political interference."

The speech reflects the experience of West Germany over monetary union with East Germany, which has increased worries over the pace of EC monetary union. These doubts are likely to make Germany much more an ally of Britain on the issue than seemed likely a few months ago.

In an apparent reference to the enthusiasm of Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, Herr Pöhl said he wondered if a single European currency and central bank "are really quite as important as they are made out to be in some quarters".

He said he still had sympathy with the plan put forward by John Major, the chancellor, to have an evolutionary system of competing currencies for the time being and agreed with Mr Major that the economic cost of an inferior European system would be greater than the savings from having a single currency.

In a separate speech on the problems of integrating East Germany, Theo Waigel, the West German finance minister, said: "In contrast to the commission, I do not agree that the second stage of the plan for European economic and monetary union should be drastically shortened."

"On the contrary, we must reinforce the community's co-operation in the area of economic and financial policies and test its ability to function in more difficult situations."

Herr Pöhl, in a passage echoing the caution of Mrs Thatcher and even Sir Alan Walters, said that inflation in different EC countries must also come down to a common level before they could give up changes. In exchange rates as an instrument of policy. Otherwise, he said: "The adjustment process would fall entirely on other aggregates, particularly on employment, and ever-increasing public transfer payments would become inescapable. The German monetary union provides a spectacular lesson in this respect."

On Saturday, Herr Pöhl will give an interim report on his

committee's plans for a European central bank to the ECOFIN council in Rome. The plan will be published before community talks on a schedule and structure for full European Monetary Union which are due to start in December.

The Bundesbank has long argued that any community central bank must not water down the power and independence that has helped keep inflation down in West Germany and made the mark the anchor of the European Monetary System.

Other central bank governors, notably Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, now appear to have joined the West Germans in rejecting democratic accountability as it exists in Britain and most other community states.

"If only for practical reasons, a modern, efficient central bank must be independent of the instructions and pressures of national governments and European institutions. Protracted consultation and concentration are inconsistent with the requirements of the financial markets," said Herr Pöhl.

Individual central bank governors, who would be members of European central bank council, would also need personal and professional independence. "Nationality should take second place to the task with which these officials are entrusted," he added.

Persimmon fights housing slump



DUNCAN Davidson, above, chairman of Persimmon, the York-based house-builder, said yesterday he was not sure what stage of the housing cycle the housebuilding business had got to. "I hope we're bumping along the bottom. Certainly we have been in the downturn

for two full years and a bit more." Mr Davidson announced interim pre-tax profits to June of £15.5 million, down almost £700,000 on last year. Despite the nationwide slump in house sales, Persimmon's profits had been all but maintained by selling more houses for

less money, said Mr Davidson. In the first six months, Persimmon completed the sale of 971 homes, 26 per cent up on last year. More than 1,000 sales were completed, exchanged or reserved in the second half. The interim dividend is increased to 2.3p (2p). Tempos, page 23

Polly Peck shines but price falls

By ANGELA MACKAY

AN AGGRESSIVE expansion policy over the past year encouraged Polly Peck International, the fruit trading, electronics and leisure group, to produce a 71.5 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £64 million to £110.5 million for the six months to mid-June.

Higher profits, however, did not boost the share price which ended 6p lower at 285p after touching 304p. Analysts said investors were still wary of the group after Aail Nadir, its chairman and biggest shareholder, last month withdrew a bid approach five days after making it.

After he backed away from the offer, the stock exchange produced a report criticising Mr Nadir for his capriciousness, which caused wild share price fluctuations.

At yesterday's meeting he denied there was any official investigation into his company as a result of the exchange's comments, or into Polly Peck's possible association with several Swiss companies which traded heavily in the company's shares over the past four years.

Intention profits in the company's three main divisions were higher compared with the same period last year while overall turnover climbed 72 per cent to £880 million. The dividend rose by 1p to 5.5p a share.

Henderson Crosthwaite, the stockbroker, has raised their estimate of Polly Peck's full year pre-tax profits to £245 million, or slightly less than earnings of 48p (40.6p) a share.

Goodman needs more loans

By OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

GOODMAN International, the Irish meat group that has been granted legal protection from its bankers, needs to borrow another Ir£200 million (£181.82 million) by November to complete the beef slaughtering season.

Goodman's banks are already owed Ir£660 million and would face an estimated shortfall of Ir£200 million if

the company was wound up. They are, however, expected to provide the extra funding since it will rank as senior to any previous debt.

It has become clear that Continental banks have borne the brunt of the earlier lending.

Goodman needs the funds to slaughter an estimate 1.5 million cattle in the next two months, half of Ireland's annual total. Unless the killing is completed successfully, many

of Ireland's farmers would be financially at risk, since they depend on Goodman's tradition of paying them on the day they sell the cattle.

The Irish government will help in the operations by making intervention funds from the European Community available to buy Goodman's beef carcasses. But it will not, as previously hoped, underwrite the company's extra borrowings.

Beef debacle, page 23

Thorn EMI shares at low after sale talks collapse

By JOHN BELL, CITY EDITOR

THORN EMI shares dropped to a low for the year after the surprise collapse of a deal to sell its lighting division to the American GTE Corporation. Dealers marked the shares down to 623p, a fall of 34p on the day and £2 below the high for the year.

Citing a confidentiality agreement with GTE, Thorn sources would say only that there was a failure to agree terms in an increasingly uncertain economic climate. Analysts believe that GTE was not willing to offer a sum close to the £300 million expected.

Mr Colin Southgate, Thorn EMI's chairman, said in a statement that he was disappointed at the breakdown of talks. The group would accelerate a recovery programme which had already led to the

loss of 800 jobs in Britain. Further cost-saving measures were under way.

The failure to complete the lighting sale follows another abortive disposal when it withdrew its defence operations from the market last November. Mr Southgate said Thorn would need to withdraw from the manufacture of some lamps but that the fittings business, which last year accounted for two-thirds of the division's turnover, had excellent potential. There would need to be fundamental restructuring of the business to meet the increasingly competitive conditions in the lighting market.

"The major issue centres on light sources and is essentially a UK manufacturing problem," said Mr Southgate. The

sources business, lamps and light bulbs, suffered from a lack of investment in plant and market development during the Sixties and Seventies. "Our cost structure, comparatively low plant efficiencies, and restricted volumes make it difficult for us to produce an adequate return on investment, let alone the return which would be required to take the business forward," he said.

An extraordinary provision would be charged against the current-year results to cover the one-off costs associated with the restructuring programme. Last year the lighting business made trading profits of £32.9 million on a turnover of £573 million.

Comment, page 23

Foreign bankers reject criticism

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

FOREIGN bankers in the City have angrily rejected claims by the British clearing banks that they are guilty of forcing companies into receivership because of short-term lending policies — and say they are being asked to "rubberstamp" rescue packages without being given full information on the company.

The chairman of Barclays, Lloyds, Midland and National Westminster Banks are believed to have complained to the Bank of England about foreign bankers who are reluctant to join refinancing schemes for companies in trouble, at an informal meeting of the Committee of London and Scottish

Bankers. But Cr  dit Lyonnais, which has in the past been singled out for criticism after its refusal to support a rescue plan for Parkfield, the crashed video supplier, and its reluctance to extend credit to Laura Ashley, denies the charges.

"We are quite willing to take part in support operations as long as all banks are treated equally and if we consider the support is worth it."

"We consider we are a bank which plays an important role in this country and we do not want to rubberstamp agreements when we do not have full access to information. We have also seen the clearing banks improving their position in a company," said M Jean-Claude Goubert, the head of Lyonnais's London branch.

The Bank of England has been having

talks for two months with the banking community on how rescue packages should be best managed. This follows the failure of some large support schemes, like that at British & Commonwealth, after the withdrawal of a minority of lenders.

The Bank, it is said, believes the problem is a general one and no single section of the banking community is at fault. Leading syndicates are far larger than they were during previous economic downturns in 1973 and 1980, and far more vulnerable to the withdrawal of a minority of lenders.

The Bank is maintaining its role of bringing banks together and urging them to allow the company and its lead creditors time to work out details of rescue packages.

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Nadir can look to US for support

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

In the City, mistakes can be measured with some accuracy, and the uncharacteristic foul-up by Asil Nadir of Polly Peck during the last month has cost each shareholder at least 50p a share, possibly more, or some £200 million in total. Had Nadir not opened his mouth out of turn, the market would simply concentrate on the fact that, once again, Polly has brought home profits above expectations for the half year. Analysts are lifting their forecasts for the full year, but they are doing it without generating much enthusiasm for the shares, despite their apparent cheapness on all the conventional yardsticks.

Nadir's ill-considered comments that first he might, and then he wouldn't, buy the outside shareholders out of their investment, has set back sentiment towards the company a decade. The price/earnings ratio is down among the housebuilders rather than up with the overseas earners, and all the old questions are being given an outing at the shareholders' expense. Nadir says on the interim statement that he regrets that anything he

did could be the subject of criticism, and he does seem genuinely puzzled by all the fuss. He confirms his "wholehearted commitment to the continuing growth and success of the company remains undiminished".

Only a profound cynic would fail to believe Nadir's promise, but in the present circumstances, promises are not enough. The investment community requires information, and Polly is found wanting. The sources of profits has never been clear, and in the light of all the problems of the Gulf, investors are nervous of that which is not clear. Nadir says the group's exposure to Iraq and Kuwait is minimal, but that still leaves Turkey, and there is a suspicion that a fair slug of profits comes from interest on funds in Turkish institutions. After all, interest rates of 50 per cent or more are available, but with high rewards come high risks.

But there are signs that the

management does recognise the need to reassure, if not inform, and the statement that the remainder of the year will be highly successful ought to bring some comfort. Similarly, the need to reduce financial gearing, while self evident at a company with £880 million of debt and less than that of tangible assets, is acknowledged. How, though, is not addressed, but at least the share price is too weak for a rights issue.

The shares have now attracted a variety of "sell into strength" tags among some of the brokers, and are unlikely in the short term to pass the hurdle of 300p. But there are buyers, most of them on the other side of the Atlantic. Like Michael Ashcroft of ADT,

Nadir may find that his best friends are not over here, but over there, where, curiously, rather more seems to be taken on trust.

Thorn shock

These days, the only thing certain about Thorn EMI is that it is unpredictable. Its management has changed, hugely for the better, but the group has retained in full its capacity to surprise. Easily the biggest was an absurd bid for British Aerospace in the early Eighties. City wits said that Thorn's expertise in consumer electronics and BAE's in defence would produce a superb game of space invaders.

The flirtation with microchips via Immos was another flight of fancy that produced little benefit for shareholders. Thorn EMI's chairman, Colin Southgate, has spent much time since 1985 in selling more than 60 companies while re-investing much of the £1 billion or more raised in purchasing 30 more.

Yesterday brought yet another surprise with news that the lighting division, the business of which the group's founder, the late Jules Thorn was most proud, would not after all be sold to GTE of America.

The initial decision to sell was yet another change of heart at corporate HQ. Just over a year after identifying it as one of the three core businesses, Mr Southgate revealed that talks were in progress with GTE over the sale of the lighting businesses. Within a year, the so-called core activity had become somehow too dependent on British markets, and Thorn too small to slug it out

internationally with giants like Toshiba, General Electric of the America, and our own GEC.

Unluckily for Thorn's image, there was another enforced change of tack last year when the group placed a "for sale" notice on the defence operations and later, after no satisfactory offers emerged, withdrew it. Whatever one thinks of these gyrations, the lighting sale would have relieved Thorn of almost all its debt and focused the group even further. But it was not to be.

During the lengthy process of negotiation and due diligence by GTE, the short term outlook for lighting was deteriorating. The consumer, corporate and local authority market have been weakening.

Thorn must now tackle the long haul towards cost cutting, easing itself from the cut-throat sectors of the lamps market and beefing up those parts of the fittings market where it comes close to being in the world league. But in the short run this will be painful. While lighting made £33 million last year, few analysts expect as much as £20 million this year.

THE financial crisis at Larry Goodman's empire threatens the already fragile Irish beef industry. At risk is a business that generated £1bn (£905 million) in exports last year and provides a living for 90,000 farmers.

Rumours about the financial health of the Goodman companies had been growing ever since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2. Despite this, many people were surprised when Desmond O'Malley, the Irish industry and commerce minister, revealed the full extent of the debacle to a special session of the Irish parliament last week.

Mr O'Malley said that Goodman International, Mr Goodman's main operating company, had short-term unsecured bank borrowings of £460 million. In addition there was a further £200 million in bank guarantees on specific beef supply contracts of Goodman International.

The gravity of the crisis facing Mr Goodman can be gauged by the fact that he put aside his passion for secrecy to provide the Irish authorities with the financial position of his companies. All had forborne limited liability in order to avoid publishing accounts.

While Goodman's borrowings soared over the past two years, partly to fund the purchase of stakes in Berisford and Unigate in Britain, he was also hit hard by the failure of the Iraqis to pay for £180 million of beef he supplied.

According to the minister, Goodman International was owed £203 million by other Goodman companies. As a result of the losses sustained by Goodman on his Berisford and Unigate shareholdings, the latter of which has been sold, and the fall in value of his London properties, no more than £290 million is thought to be recoverable.

If Mr Goodman's borrowing position is serious, the other side of his balance sheet is also under severe pressure. Goodman International is 97 per cent owned by Goodman Holdings. At end-1989 it had a net worth of £1273 million. However, this did not include any large provisions for the Iraqi debt or the other losses.

The export figures alone do not show the true significance of the beef industry to the Irish economy. In 1989 beef exports were worth £810 million. Add in various European Community export refunds

Cold comfort this winter in Goodman cattle yards



The Irish government is hoping that last week's emergency legislation, which protects Larry Goodman (above) from his creditors, will provide it with a breathing space to sort out some of the problems facing the country's beef industry.

and the value of these exports climb to £1.2 billion. The total value of the beef industry to the Irish economy is about £1.2 billion or about 6 per cent of gross national product. Ireland produces six times more beef than it consumes. The Irish livestock and meat board estimates that 1.55 million animals will be slaughtered for export or exported live this year. That is the equivalent of about 500,000 tonnes of beef. By comparison, the domestic market will take about 200,000 carcasses.

While EC price supports have raised the price of Irish beef, they have been a mixed blessing. Such supports have also raised prices available to other community producers with the result that Irish beef has found it difficult to penetrate continental markets.

The result was a growing dependence on Middle Eastern markets, mainly Iran, Iraq, Libya and Egypt. Last year 42 per cent of Irish beef exports went there. This rising dependence on the Middle East coincided with the grow-

ing dominance of the Irish beef industry by Mr Goodman. His market share is now over 40 per cent. In 1989 Goodman International had a claimed turnover of £905 million, 4.5 per cent of GNP.

The Irish banks escaped relatively lightly from the whole affair. Only £158 million of the £460 million owed is due to them. Bank of Ireland has the heaviest exposure at almost £124 million. NatWest's Irish subsidiary has £117 million, and AIB £110 million. Overseas banks were the worst hit. Lloyds is owed £127 million, Barclays £17 million, Commerzbank £135 million, WestLB £126 million, Crédit Agricole £133 million and Crédit Lyonnais £120 million.

The Goodman crisis is not without political implications. On its return to power in March 1987, the government of Charles Haughey restored cover for Irish exports to Iraq via export credit guarantees. Goodman companies were the main beneficiaries.

Mr O'Malley, then in opposition, attacked the extension of cover to Iraq. When Mr Haughey was forced to take Mr O'Malley's Progressive Democrats into coalition after the June 1989 election, Mr O'Malley became minister for industry and commerce. He removed Iraq from the list of countries eligible for cover and voided insurance policies on Irish exports of beef to Iraq for 1987 and 1988. Mr Goodman is now suing the department.

The emergency legislation passed last week allows for an examiner to investigate a company and protect it from creditors on the lines of the American Chapter 11 provision. The immediate task he faces will be to persuade the banks to provide the £200 million of working capital needed to fund the slaughter of 300,000 cattle in Goodman plants this winter.

While the High Court authority given to Peter Fitzpatrick of the Dublin office of Coopers & Lybrand, the examiner, to borrow up to £25 million for working capital takes some of the pressure off the group, Goodman faces an arduous task if it is to make it through the coming winter.

DAN WHITE
Deputy Editor,
Business and Finance,
Dublin

Persimmon steps up sales



PERSIMMON, the York-based housebuilder, continues its swan-like progress. Above the water-line, Duncan Davidson, the chairman, gives every appearance of coping with the worst housing market for decades with the utmost serenity. Below water, though, one suspects that lesser executives are paddling away like fury.

The combined result is impressive and certainly warranted yesterday's 9p rise in the share price to 163p. Six months ago, Mr Davidson said that his formula for surviving the housing slump would be to sell more houses for less money. He has delivered precisely that.

In the six months to June, Persimmon sold 971 homes, 26 per cent more than in the first half of 1989. But as prices fell and the company increased the number of first time units, the average selling price went from almost £75,000 to less than £70,000. The result was that interim pre-tax profits slipped by less than £700,000 to £15.5 million.

Although Mr Davidson admits to being unsure where we are in the housing cycle, he is confident enough to recommend a 15 per cent increase in interim dividend to 2.3p (2p). The grounds for confidence appear sound. Gearing is under tight control, having risen by just 1 point to 32 per cent since the year end. And there it is likely to stay unless some bargain-priced opportunities come up.

Interest cover is more than eight times while the dividend, despite the increase, is covered more than five times. The company also seems happy with the value of its 9,000 unit land bank. Not for Persimmon the luxury of making provisions now in an effort to make future margins look better. Only if the housing market deteriorates significantly further will the company write down values.

But it is the sales executives, paddling furiously away, to whom shareholders should be grateful. Their efforts have already resulted in 1,000 house sales being either completed, exchanged or reserved for the second half, putting the

company on target for pre-tax profits of about £30 million. On a p/e of under seven the recent fall in the share price offers a fresh buying opportunity.

Invergordon
IN the 12 weeks since Invergordon Distillers Group returned to the stock market, the shares have given the very model of a performance, tracking the market as closely as any.

When prices reacted to the escalation of events in the Gulf last month, IDG shares slid to 120p, but, yesterday, as Dr Chris Greig prepared to unveil the group's first results since going public, they were just 1p below their flotation price, at 134p. The FT-SE 100 was just 13 points below the level of IDG's debut in early May.

Scarcely a figure is out of place in the results, and IDG looks likely to make the £21.3 million it forecast at the time of the float. The 5,000 investors who mopped up the issue can expect the 2p interim dividend to be followed up by a 3p final.

While whisky volume sales generally are flattening out, IDG's strong presence,

made up of £20.8 million (£21.2 million) of operating profit, and a £300,000 credit — compared with a £1.1 million charge — earned on interest received.

The operating margin from basic steel operations at 8.25 per cent (9 per cent) was a reasonable performance in a period when turnover in the dominant British sector fell by 9 per cent to £169.3 million. Margins were also lower because of recruitment.

The British element of turnover is now down from 79 per cent to 67 per cent of the total pie as in-roads into Europe continue to be forged.

The disappointment lies in the mere £300,000 earned on cash balances of £16.5 million.

The impression is that ASW merely holds its cash in a petty cash drawer, though it says the modest return reflects the need to plough at least £11 million into funding a higher debt book. Continental debt collection takes at least three months as opposed to two in Britain.

None the less, the modest dent in pre-tax profits during difficult economic times is somewhat compensated for by the rise in the interim dividend from 4p to 4.5p a share. A further rise in the final is likely. ASW has so far managed to escape the price competition which racks the end suppliers. It is also relaxed with a DM3 exchange rate.

Contrary to what otherwise might be expected, ASW says current trading continues "at satisfactory levels", so the market is looking for year-end pre-tax profits of £43 million against £40.4 million.

The shares have been poor performers since June, falling from a peak 296p to trade yesterday at 223p. However, the prospective p/e of 6.9 and yield of 7.5 per cent are not without attraction.

POLLY PECK INTERNATIONAL PLC

1990 half-year results to 30th June

"Another record result"

Sales	up 72% to £881m
Operating profit	up 116% to £129m
Pre-tax profit	up 72% to £110m
Earnings per share	up 29% to 21.5p
Interim dividend	up 21% to 5.5p

Please ring the Company Secretary on 071 499 0890 if you would like to receive a copy of the full interim statement

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Growth on a Global Scale

POLLY PECK INTERNATIONAL PLC

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Hargrave finds a new path

STEPHEN Hargrave, the fund manager turned financial journalist whose most recent job was as head of planning at United Newspapers — reporting directly to the company's chairman, Lord Stevens — is finally fulfilling his ambition to become a businessman in his own right. Hargrave, aged 34, ex-Warburg, Save & Prosper and the Evening Standard, left United four weeks ago and has bought a 23.2 per cent stake in Pathfinders, a small unlisted securities market company, which has an employment agency outlet in Maddox Street, specialising in media vacancies. "I've found my shell," declares Hargrave, who also achieved some success as a novelist when, two years ago, he published *London London*. He has entered into this new venture with Luke Johnson, aged 28, the former smaller companies and media analyst at Kleinwort Benson, and between them they speak for 29.9 per cent of Pathfinders, after investing £250,000 of their own money. The balance of the 72 per cent holding being sold by the company's founding family has been placed with institutions. "We intend to pursue acquisitional and organic growth," says

Hargrave. "Concentrating on services to industry that are recession proof — we are looking at a debt collection company at the moment." But after his experiences at United he will not, he says with a laugh, be looking at any other media businesses.

QUOTE of the year....
Achim Mueh, West German Telekom spokesman, describing the difficulties of linking the telephone networks of East and West Germany, said: "It's as if a four-lane autobahn suddenly turned into a rural dirt road."

Nice little earner

COMMON though it is, the name Smith could soon be worth its weight in gold — at least as far as a firm of London consultants is concerned. For the company, Montague Bains Du Cann, which describes itself as a specialist in "financial reclamations" has set up a trust to search for cash, shares and other treasures which may be lying unclaimed — unclaimed by members of the diverse Smith clan, that is — in banks and on deposit. Every Smith who joins will be given an equal share of any money recovered, in return for a £20 fee, but it may take a while to trace the lost fortunes. "There are millions lying around in dormant accounts," says Howard Mendoza, the managing director, who has traced

the Smith name to a chieftain who lived in about 1150 — the third son of the supreme chief of several clans, who went by the name of Murdoch. But whether there is any Smith money to be recovered or not, Mendoza, at least, stands to make a fortune. For if all the 800,000 Smiths in Britain were to heed the call, his company would receive £16 million....

Private venture

RODNEY Lord, Economics Editor of *The Times* for the past four years, until his departure last week, is branching out on his own. Lord, aged 44, who spent three years at the Treasury as a special adviser to Nigel Lawson before joining *The Sunday Times* and then *The Times* in



1986, has swapped the lure of newspaper journalism for the quite different perils of running his own publishing business, initially from his Camberwell home. He already publishes a monthly newsletter, *Privatisation International*, for accountants, merchant bankers and governments, charging £350 annual subscription. "There is something similar in the US, but much smaller, and dealing with American privatisations only," says Lord. "There doesn't seem to be anything dealing with the subject on a global basis." After reading history at Oxford University, Lord spent 13 years with the *Daily Telegraph* and it was after a brief spell as a leader writer there that the Treasury approached him. "I hope to now gain a bit of control over my life," says Lord, who will be available for consultancy and adds that he hopes to be able to rekindle some old hobbies, including sailing and playing the trumpet — perhaps even his own, if his business venture succeeds as planned.

Predator prey

TIMES must be hard. Johnson Fry, the investment group run by Charles Fry, has dreamed up a fund to buy property from developers desperate to sell at almost any price. The business expansion scheme fund, aptly named

Predator, sports a steely-eyed eagle on the cover of its prospectus. This improves on the picture of a vulture, which was withdrawn after protests from Christopher Castleman, chief executive of LFT, owner of Johnson Fry. "I had thought of putting a shark on the cover," says Fry, aged 50. "But some people thought it was too aggressive."

Haven at Hilton

HILTON International, the hotel group owned by Ladbrokes, may have been sorry to see the management contract on the Kuwait Hilton come to an end two years ago, when the hotel was taken back by the Kuwaiti government. The Hilton in Baghdad, the Iraqi capital, was closed down 20 years ago. But Michael Hirst, the chairman and chief executive of Hilton International, is not shedding any tears. For Hilton's other hotels are benefiting from events in the Gulf. The Bahrain Hilton is now home to many ex-Kuwait residents. Hirst says the hotel chain is affected by political activity or natural disasters every year. He calculates that the chain would have made an additional £6 million in profits had it not been for the Tiananmen Square massacre, the uprising in Trinidad and Hurricane Hugo.

CAROL LEONARD

Portfolio PLATINUM

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Debenhams	Retail	
2	Asda	Retail	
3	Hamleys	Toys	
4	Next	Retail	
5	Realty	Real Estate	
6	Whitman	Insurance	
7	BAT (UK)	Tobacco	
8	Pressat	Electronics	
9	Union Carbide	Chemicals	
10	Smiths	Electronics	
11	British Telecom	Telecom	
12	Woolworths	Retail	
13	NMC Group	Insurance	
14	Bovril	Food	
15	Let Service	Insurance	
16	Not Am Bn	Insurance	
17	Harland & Wolff	Shipbuilding	
18	Close Bros	Retail	
19	Proudfoot Alexander	Insurance	
20	Hazlewood Foods	Food	
21	Anglia	Insurance	
22	Imperial Chemical	Chemicals	
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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

There were no valid claims yesterday for the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize. The money will be added to today's prize.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990		High Low		Price Change		Int	Yield
SHORTS (Under Five Years)							
98	50%	Trust	2/4/90	99		2.7	11.5%
99	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	10.9%
100	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
101	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
102	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
103	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
104	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
105	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
106	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
107	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
108	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
109	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
110	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
111	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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117	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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126	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
127	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
128	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
129	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
130	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
131	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
132	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
133	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
134	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
135	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
136	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
137	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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141	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
142	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
143	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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146	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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163	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
164	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
165	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
166	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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168	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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182	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
183	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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189	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
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192	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
193	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
194	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
195	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
196	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
197	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
198	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
199	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%
200	50%	Trust	1/1/90	99		0.32	11.8%

STOCK MARKET

Volume slumps to low for year

THE number of shares traded on the equity market slumped to another low for the year, with investors watching events in the Middle East and worried by the pound's continued fall.

As the final leg of the long three-week trading account got under way, investors stayed on the sidelines. Wall Street was closed for the Labor Day holiday.

An early mark-up of prices in thin conditions was prompted by activity on the futures market, where the FT-SE 100 index September series continued to trade at a healthy premium. But dealers said there was little follow-through in the cash market, where prices closed below their best. The FT-SE 100 rose 3.8 points to close at 2,166.6, having been almost 14 points ahead early in the session, while turnover slumped to a year's low of 221 million shares. That compares with the previous low of 281 million traded last week. The FT 30 index fell 6 points to 1,687.4.

index fell 0.2 points to 1,087.4.
Fading hopes of an early cut in interest rates left government securities with losses of £4 at the longer end.
Among leaders, British Aerospace rose 12p to 544p as the Farnborough Air Show got under way, but there were losses for the likes of Marks and Spencer, down 4p at 233p.
Oil shares made headway with the help of a stronger oil

THORN EMI: SALE OF LIGHTING DIVISION ABANDONED

The graph plots two data series over time from September to August. The Y-axis represents value, ranging from 600 to 900. The 'FTSE All-share Index (Rebased)' is shown as a jagged line fluctuating between approximately 750 and 850. The 'Share price' of Thorn EMI is shown as a smoother line that starts around 850, peaks near 900 in late 1997, and then shows a sharp, sustained decline starting in January 1998, reaching approximately 650 by August 1998. A vertical line marks the date of the announcement in January 1998.

price. Security Pacific Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, continues to recommend BP, 6p better at 370p, and Shell, 14p higher at 486p. There were also gains for Enterprise, 10p to 675p, Iasme, 13p to 500p, that talks aimed at selling its lighting division to GTE Corporation of America had broken down because the companies could not agree a price. The market had pinned its hopes on the sale in order

Masterfile, the publisher, held steady at a low of 45p amid speculation that another rights issue may be contemplated soon. In November last year, the group raised £3.6 million by way of a rights at 160p. But in April, the shares halved as profits collapsed from £1.12 million to £384,080.

Ranger Oil, 9p to 382p, and **Ultramar**, 1p to 356p, to boost a dull price in the shares, which lost 34p to close

The low levels of corporate activity continue to put a dampener on sentiment. Last week, brewer Greenall Whitley, down 4p at 219p, announced the closure of its brewing interests after failing to find a suitable buyer. Yesterday, Thorns EMI added to the gloom, with the news

about the group's high level of debt and the absence of news about the separate flotation of its Del Monte food business.

Last month, the shares were sent reeling by a Stock Exchange enquiry into a proposed bid for the company that failed to materialise. They had been trading close to their peak of 450p, but have fallen as low as 243p.

Persimmon, the housebuilder, pleased the market by reporting interim figures only £700,000 lower at £15.5 million. The shares responded with a rise of 9p to 163p. But **Halls Homes and Gardens**, the conservatories and garden buildings group, tumbled 33p to 55p after issuing a profits warning. The group says results in the second half are unlikely to do better than break even.

Really Useful Group rose 4p to 240p. It followed the death of Robert Holmes à Court, the Australian businessman, at the weekend. Mr Holmes à Court held a 6.6 per cent in the company and was holding out against the decision of Andrew Lloyd Webber, the com-

draw Lloyd Webber, the composer, to take the company private again. A spokesman for Mr Holmes & Court's interests said no change in policy was planned. At the last account, Mr Lloyd Webber had received acceptances for his offer of 234p a share totalling 91 per cent. However, takeover favourite

Dalgety, the Spillers food group, fell 3p to 355p as bid hopes suffered a setback. Mr Holmes à Court also held a joint 5.2 per cent stake in Dalgety with Elf Aquitaine of France.

Invergordon Distillers held steady at 134p after reporting interim figures in line with market expectations. Pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30, were £8.2 million

Linread, the industrial fasteners group, rose 2p to 150p after reporting pre-tax profits of £1.65 million (£1.55 million). The group says trading conditions remain difficult and high interest rates have not helped. But **Goodhead Group**, the free newspaper publisher, lost 3p at 73p after a drop in pre-tax profits from £5.57 million to £4 million.

Colin Rosser, the chairman, blamed the downturn on advertising revenue in the publishing arm and a lower contribution from design.

Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank, fell 8p to 73p after its three biggest shareholders, Pargesa Holding, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert and Banque Internationale à Luxembourg announced they would not sell their 61.6 per cent holding in the company. They blamed events in the Middle East and deteriorating economic conditions in Britain.

MICHAEL CLARK

By JONATHAN PRYNN

BBA Group, the automotive, industrial and aviation services and components company, has announced its second American acquisition in six weeks.

The company is paying the Hillman Company \$31.8 million for Texstar, its Dallas, Texas, plastic components and composites maker. In July, BBA spent \$23 million on Van Dusen, an airport services group.

The Textstar acquisition is being financed through an issue of 11.96 million BBA shares, which will give Hillman a 4.99 per cent stake. Peter Clappison, BBA's finance director, said Hillman has indicated to BBA that it intends to hold the shares as a long-term investment.

In the event of the deal not receiving regulatory clearance from the American defence department within a year of the closing date, BBA retains the option to sell Texstar back to Hillman for a cash sum equal to the value of 11.96 million BBA shares at the time of the deal's close.

Texstar had sales of \$32 million, operating profits of \$4.3 million and pre-tax profits of \$3.1 million in the year to December 1989. Defence-related sales are about 40 per cent of the total.

Wall Street was closed for the Labor Day holiday.

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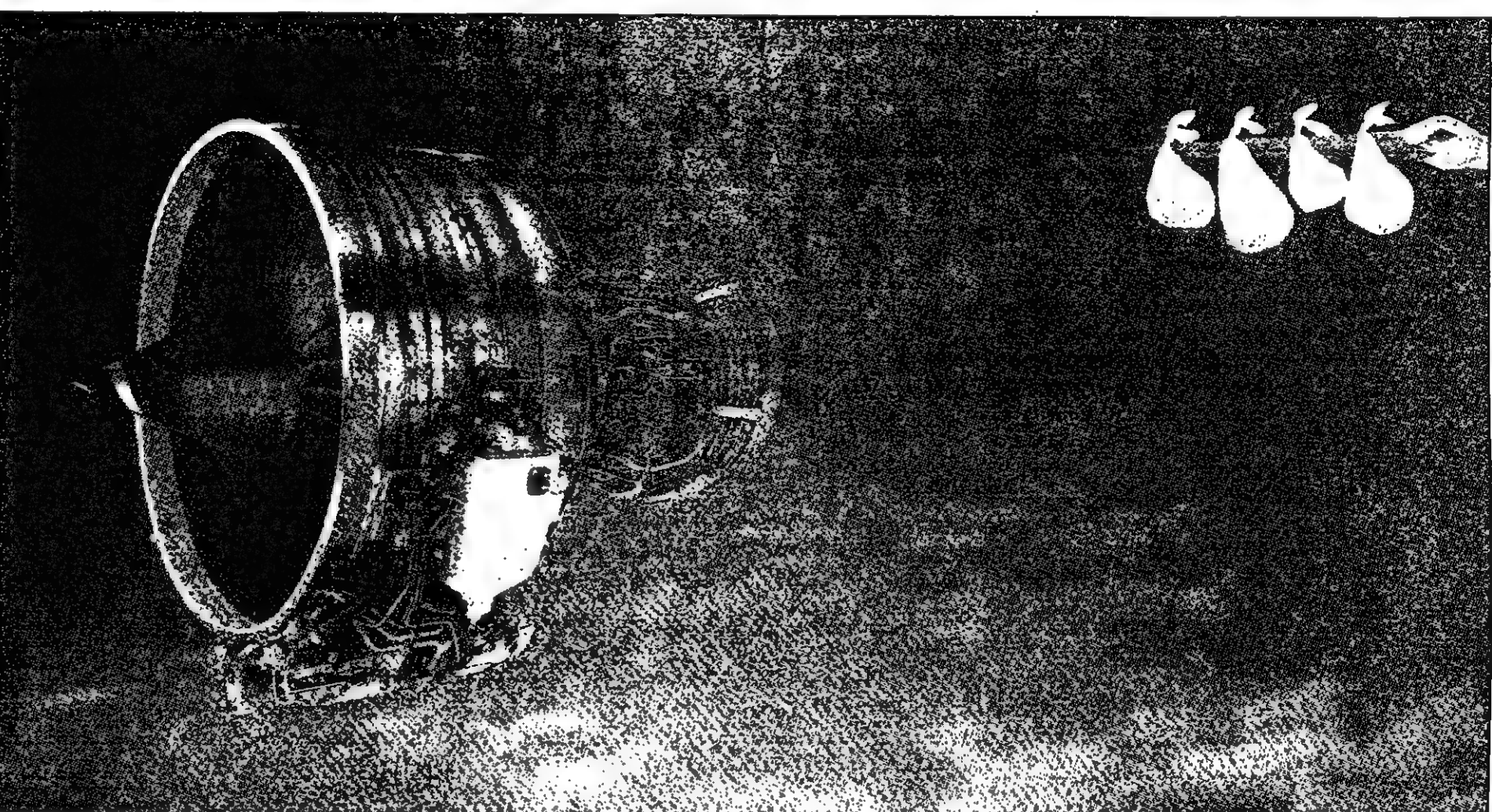
Index	Value	Daily change (%)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (%)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (US\$)	Yearly change (US\$)
The World	801.1	0.0	-28.7	-0.5	-19.3	-0.9	-17.2
(free)	114.7	0.0	-26.9	-0.5	-19.5	-0.9	-17.4
EAPE	1053.0	0.5	-32.4	-1.7	-24.9	-1.4	-21.4
(free)	107.9	-0.5	-32.7	-1.2	-25.3	-1.4	-21.8
Europe	843.2	-0.3	-15.5	-0.5	-11.9	-1.1	-1.9
(free)	138.0	-0.3	-15.6	-0.8	-12.2	-1.1	-1.9
North America	928.2	0.8	-28.8	-0.1	-3.1	0.0	-0.1
Norway	1369.4	0.0	-12.1	-0.2	-0.9	-0.9	-2.2
(free)	218.3	0.0	-7.2	-0.1	0.1	0.9	7.9
Pacific	2308.2	-0.7	-41.9	-1.5	-32.7	-1.5	-32.4
Far East	3312.2	-0.8	-42.8	-1.5	-33.7	-1.7	-33.5
Australia	2882.2	1.9	-17.0	0.9	-6.4	1.0	-3.5
Austria	1513.9	-3.7	1.9	-3.7	10.8	-4.5	18.4
Belgium	761.4	-0.4	-22.7	-0.7	-17.9	-1.2	-10.1
Canada	448.7	0.7	-25.9	-0.3	-14.2	-0.2	-13.9
Denmark	1208.0	0.6	-8.4	0.6	-2.0	-0.4	8.5
Finland	83.6	0.8	-57.5	0.8	-20.4	0.0	-15.7
(free)	111.2	-0.1	-25.4	-0.1	-22.1	-0.9	-18.2
France	817.2	-2.0	-23.7	-2.4	-18.8	-2.8	-11.3
Germany	775.4	0.8	-15.5	0.4	-8.1	0.0	-1.8
Hong Kong	2042.3	-0.1	-7.9	-0.9	6.5	-0.9	7.0
Italy	298.9	-2.9	-22.5	-2.9	-16.3	-3.6	-9.8
Japan	3470.1	-0.9	-43.7	-1.7	-34.7	-1.7	-34.6
Netherlands	771.6	1.3	-18.4	0.9	-11.4	0.5	-5.1
New Zealand	78.3	0.0	-24.0	-0.9	-14.8	-0.8	-11.1
Norway	1421.5	0.0	-1.9	-0.2	14.1	-0.8	25.6
(free)	1421.5	0.2	8.0	0.0	-0.5	0.5	17.6
Singapore	1625.4	1.0	-18.5	0.3	-12.0	0.2	-5.3
Spain	138.7	0.5	-20.3	-0.9	-16.5	-1.3	-7.3
Sweden	1494.3	-0.4	-14.8	-0.7	-7.2	-1.2	-2.9
(free)	214.0	-0.6	-11.8	-0.9	-3.7	-1.4	0.8
Switzerland	788.0	-0.1	-13.8	-0.2	-14.5	-0.8	0.2
(free)	118.9	0.0	-14.8	0.0	-15.5	-0.8	1.0
UK	6412.0	0.0	-11.1	0.0	-11.1	-0.9	-3.4
USA	381.6	0.9	-21.0	0.0	-8.2	0.0	-8.2

MAJOR INDICES

RISERs		New Years	
Artworks	4355 (+190)	Don Jones	Closed
Battle Aerospace	5449 (+129)	Tokyo	
Entertainment	6749 (+103)	Hong Kong	25420 (+3/-557.94)
L.A.M.O	855 (+133)	Wang	
Shells	855 (+133)	Hong Sang	3006.81 (-20.09)
News Corp	855 (+133)		
Deutsche Holdings	855 (+110)	CSB Tendency	101.6 (+/-0.7)
Micro	855 (+121)	Trustee: AD	1503.6 (+/-1.7)
Micro Focus	782 (+103)	AD	129.92 (-0.29)
Am & S	1030 (+8)	Brussels:	
PerkinElmer	1821 (+9)	General	5560.81 (-47.7)
Ranger	3613 (+139)	Genentech	556.1 (-5.59)
Pharmacia	6192 (+139)	Purich: SCA Gen	556.1 (-2.0)

STOCKS		FUNDAMENTALS	
EQUITIES			
Adaptive Resources	37	Proteus Int'l	106-2
BioCryst Hldgs	30	Saxon Healthcare	146
Corral May (50p)	34	Sloan Select (100p)	96-11
Cosmo Cam (50p)	20	St James Place	70-2
Castle Gate Int'l (100p)	85	Utd Energy	13-1
Dartmouth Inst (100p)	65	Utd Uniform	113
EDCO Int'l	47	Venturi Int'l	10
EFIM Jaws Int'l	50+1	Wig Tpe App	170-1
Flagship Euro Int'l	52		
French Prop Inst	75	See main listing for Water shares	
German IT	75		
Golden Vale	46		
Interpardon	132-2	RIGHTS ISSUES	
Leading Ls New	12+2	BDA Hldgs N/P	3/4
Lewinstreet	108	Broad SR N/P	1/4
M&P	22	Florida N/P	1/4
M&P by PIC	77	Gardiner Go N/P	1 1/4
Midland Capital	107	Pentacis N/P	8 1/2+1/2
Midland Radio	22 1/2	Telios N/P	2
Northern Investors	151-2	SI Group N/P	3 1/2+1/2
Parasitic	112	Western N/P	1 1/4
Pharmacia	121		
		(Issue price in brackets)	

Some signs suggest our family is still growing.



We saw the beginnings of an impressive family when we joined our partner General Electric in conceiving the CFM56. Today the CFM56 family of engines powers medium and long range aircraft from Boeing, Airbus and McDonnell Douglas. With their ideal

combination of economy and performance, our engines have found a home aboard the industry's most advanced aircraft. Generating a family of engines is not the least of our abilities at SNECMA. When married to proven designs, our engines give the world's airlines unsurpassed

reliability, plus all the economic advantages of the latest technology. The worldwide success of the CFM56 family is ample proof.

Groupe
SNECMA
POWER ALOFT

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High	Low	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Vol	P/E	1990	Low	High	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Vol	P/E	1990	Low	High	Company	Price	Offer	Change	Vol	P/E	
74	74	ADR Barnett	38	37	0	23	10	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
113	113	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
154	154	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
154	154	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185	19	185
219	219	ADR	22	22	0	15	21	1990	170	185	19	185	19	185												

Exchange Index compared with 1985 was down at 84.3 (day's rate 94.2-94.4).				
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES				
Market rates for September 3				
	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1,989.0-1,978.0	1,975.15-1,972.5	1.07-1.05p	3.13-3.08p
Mon. Mkt	2,139.8-2,170.1	2,168.8-1.97	0.43-0.50p	0.81-0.70p
Amsterdm	3,337.3-3,349.0	3,378.3-3,351.5	1% 1/4-1p	53-52p
Frankfurt	2,161.4-2,165.0	2,161.4-2,165.0	1% 1/4-1p	53-52p
Copenhagen	11,330.1-11,350.0	11,320.1-11,345.4	4% 1/2-4p	12 1/4-11p
London	1,104.0-1,107.0	1,115.5-1,115.1	59-59p	59-59p
Osaka	2,351.4-2,351.4	2,351.4-2,351.4	57-10p	10-10p
Dublin	29.0-29.82	29.0-29.82	57-10p	82-80p
Stockholm	184.0-184.0	184.0-184.0	10-10p	22-20p
Milan	21,815.0-21,830.0	21,815.0-21,830.0	10-10p	22-20p
Geneva	11,431.1-11,487.0	11,431.1-11,487.0	4% 1/2-4p	11 1/4-11p
Paris	9,517.0-9,530.0	9,517.0-9,530.0	4% 1/2-4p	11 1/4-11p
Tokyo	10,854.0-10,893.0	10,854.0-10,893.0	2 1/2-2p	4% 1/2-4p
Singapore	265.01-261.00	265.01-261.00	1% 1/4-1p	4% 1/2-4p
Hong Kong	20.00-20.00	20.00-20.00	1% 1/4-1p	4% 1/2-4p
Frankfurt	2,651.0-2,670.0	2,651.0-2,670.0	1% 1/4-1p	3% 3/4-3p

Frankfurt = p/s. Discount = c/s.
 p/s = premium; c/s = discount.

Singapore	1,750.0-1,750.0	West Germany	1,000.0-1,000.0	Italy	1,175.0-1,175.0
Malaysia	2,680.0-2,680.0	Switzerland	1,312.0-1,312.0	Belgium	1,350.0-1,350.0
Thailand	1,150.0-1,150.0	Australia	1,150.0-1,150.0	Hong Kong	7,750.0-7,750.0
Canada	1,150.0-1,150.0	Netherlands	5,300.0-5,310.0	Spain	90.70-90.80
France	3,110.0-3,110.0	Japan	143.85-143.85	Austria	1,150.0-1,150.0
Norway	6,110.0-6,110.0				

Notes: supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Emf.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates by: Cheating Banks 15 Finance House 15%
 Overnight Market Rates 15%
 Overnight Bank 15% Low 14% Week Bank 14%
 Treasury Bill (Discount) %
 Selling 2m: 14% 14% 14% 14%
 Selling 2m: 14% 14% 14% 14%
 Prime Bankers' (Discount) % 1m: 14% 14% 14%
 2m: 14% 14% 14% 14% 14% 14% 14% 14%
 Trade Bill (Discount) % 1m: 15%
 2m: 15% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15%
 Interest %: Overpayment on 14% close 14%
 6m: 14% 14% 14% 14% 14% 14% 14% 14%
 1m: 15% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15%

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1mth	3mth	6mth
Dollars	7 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8
Dollars	5 1/8-1 1/8	6 1/8-1 1/8	6 1/8-1 1/8	6 1/8-1 1/8
Swiss	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8
French Franc	10 1/8-1 1/8	10 1/8-1 1/8	10 1/8-1 1/8	10 1/8-1 1/8
Swiss	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8
Yen	7 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8
Swiss	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8	8 1/8-1 1/8

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FT-SE 100				Previous open interest 25000		Time Money		HIBID		Low		Close		Vol		
Jan 90	2500.0	2500.0	214.0	2175.0	2150	2150	80.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	2340	2340	300	
Feb 90	2500.0	2500.0	214.0	2175.0	2150	2150	80.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	2340	2340	300	
Mar 90	2500.0	2500.0	214.0	2175.0	2150	2150	80.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	82.70	2340	2340	300	
Three Month Sterling	Previous open interest 17865					US Treasury Bond										
Jan 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Feb 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Three Month Eurodollar	Previous open interest 41096					US Treasury Bond										
Jan 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Feb 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Three Month Eurodollar	Previous open interest 41096					US Treasury Bond										
Jan 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Feb 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Three Month Eurodollar	Previous open interest 41096					US Treasury Bond										
Jan 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Feb 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Three Month Eurodollar	Previous open interest 41096					US Treasury Bond										
Jan 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Feb 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Three Month Eurodollar	Previous open interest 41096					US Treasury Bond										
Jan 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Feb 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	80.20	
Mar 90	85.86	85.86	86.73	86.81	7717	80.20										

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A fraudulent justice?

Should complex fraud continue to be tried by juries? This question was at the heart of a working party report to the Bar Council published last week and prepared against the background of intense interest in the Guinness trial. Had the four defendants been acquitted, no doubt there would have been a hue and cry to reassess, if not to reintroduce, the recommendation of Lord Roskill's Committee in 1985 that trial by jury in cases of serious and complex fraud should be replaced by trial by a tribunal consisting of a judge and two lay members.

The laymen were to be selected from a panel of 150 to 200 people chosen for their knowledge of financial matters. In the event, the four defendants have been convicted of most of the charges that they faced. Yet there has already been an editorial to the effect that the length and cost of the trial reinforces the argument that a system of random choice of lay jurors from the general population is not the best way of bringing fraudsters to book.

What are the most important considerations? Are they length and cost? The working party accepts their relevance and relative importance, but rightly accords far greater importance to the reliability of jury verdicts. Nobody is likely to make the sort of imprecations against the Guinness jury



The Guinness case has placed the spotlight on

whether juries are equipped to handle complex fraud cases, Roger Henderson, QC, reports

that might reasonably be expected to be levelled at a triumvirate. Had there been outright acquittals by a select three-man court, no doubt the result would have been condemned as an establishment whitewash and public confidence in the system would have been impaired. Upon conviction by such a court, the defendants could correctly have pointed out the extent to which they had been disadvantaged by comparison with others charged with serious non-fraudulent offences susceptible to comparable terms of imprisonment.

Of course, juries can make mistakes. So can judges. But ordinary people can reasonably expect that 12 citizens selected at random will not be willing to convict unless they are convinced of a defendant's guilt. The same confidence is unlikely to be reposed in a judge alone or in a judge sitting with two specially selected laymen. As Lord Devlin said: "Jury trial is an insurance that the law and prosecuting process conforms to the ordinary man's idea of what is fair and just and is the

ultimate protection against tyranny." The fear is that there will be acquittals where there should be convictions: in the terms of the Roskill report, that fraudsters will not be brought to book. The implementation of many of that committee's other recommendations must be given time to be tested. If fear of wrongful acquittal is to be dispelled or to be proved, there needs to be some hard evidence, either that serious and complex fraud cases are not being pursued at all because the prosecuting authorities consider that a jury would be unable to master the arcane subject matter, or about how juries deliberate in such cases.

In so doing, I hope that it would also be possible to investigate pre-trial causes of delay. However, the department and others are hamstrung in obtaining evidence of what goes on within the secrecy of a jury's retiring room. Section 8 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 makes it a contempt of court to seek to obtain such evidence. As long as research into the quality of jurors' deliberations is in effect

prohibited, any judgment on the subject is necessarily imperfect.

A carefully planned research project is required and the 1981 act requires amendment. Without that, the impressions of practitioners and observers will be susceptible to criticism, particularly that the evidence is anecdotal. Only if there is reliable evidence that the guilty — and that begs the question — are not being prosecuted or are being acquitted, will abandonment of the jury system in complex fraud cases become arguably justifiable.

That is not to say that improvements do not need to be made and a number of these are suggested in the report to the Bar Council:

- The removal of financial penalties upon jurors in long cases by making material improvements in their compensation for loss of income.
- The removal of the right to be excused from jury service between 65 and 70.
- A special court centre or courts equipped, designed and of a size sufficient to aid speedy and convenient complex fraud trials.
- Enhancement of jurors' retiring facilities.
- Guidance to jurors about note-taking.
- Increased resources for police fraud squads.
- A specialist panel of judges.
- Continuing education for counsel in this field of work.

The report does not address



The Guinness trial, decided by jury: Ernest Saunders, foreground, with his co-defendants, Gerald Rosson (to his left), Anthony Parnes and Sir Jack Lyons. The jury sits to the right of Justice Henry

other possibilities that were unanimously rejected by Lord Roskill's committee, such as trial by a single judge or trial by a special jury. These, also, should only be re-evaluated if the evidence is made available that permits reasoned criticism of the quality of jurors' deliberations.

Since no barrister or solicitor is allowed to sit on a jury, and judges

are chosen only from their ranks, it can only be by the opinions of practitioners, judges and informed observers that juries are judged. On the basis of evidence from practitioners, the report concludes that juries selected entirely at random in all classes of case, including complex fraud cases, be expected to return sensible and fair verdicts.

I agree, but I would prefer to have reliable and cogent evidence to justify that view and I have a lurking doubt about whether the quality of deliberations is as high as it would be if there were a requirement that a panel of jurors must include, say, six people of 40 or more years of age.

● The author is chairman of the public affairs committee of the Bar.

Law Report September 4 1990 Court of Appeal

Court cannot use European law to override sex bias compensation limit

Marshall v Southampton and South West Hampshire Area Health Authority (Teaching) (No 2)

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Staughton

[Judgment July 31]

The English court did not have power under European law to override the limit placed by section 65(2) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, as amended, on the amount of compensation awardable for unlawful discrimination, as article 6 of Council Directive 76/207/EEC of February 9, 1976 on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards access to employment, vocational training and promotion, and working conditions (OJ 1976 No L 39 p 40) did not have direct effect.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments by a

majority (Lord Justice Dillon dissenting) when dismissing an appeal by Miss Helen Marshall from the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Wood, Mr R. J. Lewis and Mr R. H. Phillips) ([1990] ICR 6) which had allowed an appeal by Southampton and South West Hampshire Area Health Authority (Teaching) from the inclusion by an industrial tribunal, in an award of compensation, of a sum for interest. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

Section 65 of the 1975 Act provides: "(1) Where an industrial tribunal finds that a complaint presented to it... is well founded the tribunal shall make an award of the following as it considers just and equitable... (b) an order requiring the respondent to pay to the complainant compensation of an amount corresponding to any damages he could have been ordered by a county court... to

pay... if the complaint had been dealt with under section 66....

Subsection (2), as amended by, respectively, section 125(1) of the Employment Protection Act 1975 and section 159(2) of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 provides:

"The amount of compensation awarded to a person under subsection (1)(b) shall not exceed the limit for the time being imposed by [section 75 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978]."

Article 6 of Council Directive 76/207 provides: "Member states shall introduce into their national legal systems such measures as are necessary to ensure that persons who consider themselves wronged by failure to apply to them the principle of equal treatment within the meaning of articles 3, 4 and 5, to pursue their claims by judicial process after recourse to other

competent authorities". Miss Marshall in person; Mr Andrew Lydard for the health authority; Mr David Pannick as amicus curiae.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that Miss Marshall had been employed by the health authority as a senior dietitian. She was dismissed at the age of 62 because she was a woman. Had she been a man her employment would have continued at least until the age of 65.

She claimed that she had been the victim of unlawful discrimination under the 1975 Act. But since section 6(4) provided that the prohibition of discrimination by an employer on the ground of sex did not apply in relation to death or retirement, she relied on article 5 of Council Directive 76/207 which provided:

"(1) Application of the principle of equal treatment with

regard to working conditions, including the conditions governing dismissal, means that men and women shall be guaranteed the same conditions without discrimination on grounds of sex. (2) To this end, member states shall take (various specified measures)".

The Court of Justice of the European Communities held in Case 157/84 Marshall v Southampton and South West Hampshire Area Health Authority (Teaching) ([1986] QB 401) that there had been discrimination contrary to the Directive and that Miss Marshall was entitled to pursue her claim for compensation in the national court despite section 6(4).

The Court of Appeal, which had directed the reference to the European Court, referred the claim back to the industrial tribunal to assess compensation.

The provision relevant for

that purpose was section 65 of the 1975 Act, as amended. The limit under subsection (2) was, at the relevant time, £6,250, section 66, to which section 65(1)(b) referred, provided, *inter alia*, that proceedings to which section 66 applied should be brought only in a county court, but that all such remedies were to be obtainable in such proceedings as were obtainable in the High Court.

The health authority paid Miss Marshall £6,250 before the further hearing before the industrial tribunal, but Miss Marshall held itself entitled and bound to award adequate compensation, on the basis of a passage in Case 14/83 von Colson and Kamann v Land Nordrhein-Westfalen ([1984] ECR 1891, 1909).

"If a member state chooses to penalise breaches of [the prohibition of discrimination] by the award of compensation, then in order to ensure that it is effective and that it has a deterrent effect, that compensation must in any event be adequate in relation to the damage sustained...."

The tribunal assessed Miss Marshall's loss at £19,405, and awarded her that sum less the amount already received. The £19,405 included £7,710 interest.

The health authority paid, without appealing, the balance of the capital sum awarded, but it appealed against the inclusion of the sum for interest. The Employment Appeal Tribunal allowed the appeal and the award was reduced accordingly.

Although Miss Marshall's appeal was only over the matter of interest, the validity in relation to her of the limit in section 65(2) of the 1975 Act was also in issue, because, *inter alia*, if it was valid it was a complete answer to her claim to interest.

The starting point for considering the effect in national courts of EEC directives was article 189 of the Treaty of Rome which provided, *inter alia*:

"A directive shall be binding, as to the result to be achieved, upon each member state to which it is addressed, but shall leave to the national authorities the choice of form and methods."

It had been held in the European Court that one effect of that was that, in the absence of legislation by a member state to implement a directive, the deterrent effect could not be directly applied by national courts in litigation between individuals.

Miss Marshall owed her success in the European Court to the fact that her employers were a public body which (as was common ground) was regarded for purposes of European law as an emanation of the national state.

The principle applied in Marshall was set out at pp 421-422: "46... wherever the provisions of a directive appear, as far as their subject matter is concerned, to be unconditional and sufficiently precise: those provisions may be relied upon by an individual against the state where that state fails to im-

plement the directive in national law by the end of the period prescribed or where it fails to implement the directive correctly."

"That view is based on the consideration that it would be incompatible with the binding nature which article 189 confers on the directive to hold as a matter of principle that the obligation imposed thereby cannot be relied on by those concerned. From that the court deduced that a member state which has not adopted the implementing measures required by the directive within the prescribed period may not be relied on by those concerned. From that the court deduced that a member state which has not adopted the implementing measures required by the directive within the prescribed period may not be relied on by those concerned. From that the court deduced that a member state which has not adopted the implementing measures required by the directive within the prescribed period may not be relied on by those concerned."

By parity of reasoning with that holding, the obligation under article 6 of a national state which had chosen to penalise unlawful discrimination by the award of compensation, to ensure that the compensation was adequate in relation to the damage sustained, had to override the limitation in section 65(2).

The industrial tribunal had therefore been entitled to disregard that limit.

However, while it was one thing to write that limitation out of a national statute, by a form of estoppel, as explained in paragraph 47 of Marshall, it was not necessarily the same thing to write into the statute a power that was not there.

It was abundantly clear that as a matter of national law industrial tribunals had no power, inherent or otherwise, to award interest on or include interest in an award, because, *inter alia*, all that could be awarded under section 65(1)(b) was "compensation of an amount corresponding to any damages", and interest, although part of compensation, was not part of "damages".

The question then was whether it was possible for the national court, by an application of the estoppel principle in Marshall, to treat section 65(1)(b) as a broad power to award compensation, disregarding the limitation to damages stated in the section, by reason of article 6.

After considerable hesitation, his Lordship had come to the view, for reasons given by him, that that was possible. The case of von Colson was not concerned with the estoppel principle, and was distinguishable.

His Lordship would allow the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the most important issue was whether article 6 had direct application in the English court, so as to require that court to give effect to it despite national legislation to the contrary.

In von Colson, the European Court said at p 1909: "[Article 6] does not include any unconditional and sufficiently precise obligation as regards sanctions for discrimination which, in the absence of implementing measures adopted in good time may be relied on by individuals in order to obtain

specific compensation under the directive, where that is not provided for or permitted under national law."

That subject to Case 222/84 Johnston v Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary ([1987] QB 129), appeared to be conclusive on the question of compensation, which was implied in article 6 Johnston, on which Miss Marshall relied, was a long way from the considerations in the present case.

The European Court had, therefore, held that article 6, other than in very special circumstances, was not sufficiently direct and precise to be applied directly by national courts.

It followed that the court did not have jurisdiction under European law to override the national legislation in order to sanction a sum of compensation in excess of the statutory limitation.

The only other possibility was to consider whether there was any ambiguity in the wording of the English legislation, since there was no ambiguity as to the total limit on compensation, which had already been exceeded in Miss Marshall's case, without the addition of interest.

Her Ladyship would therefore, with regret, dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that, although section 6(4) of the 1975 Act had been amended by section 2 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1986, so that purely legal damages could be awarded, Miss Marshall would now succeed against the health authority on liability without needing to rely on direct effect. The Act had not been amended so as to implement section 76/207 on the topic of compensation.

Although article 6 did not expressly mention sanctions or compensation at all, von Colson had held that those matters were implicit in the article. However, that case also held that such provisions as to compensation did not have direct effect, even where the claim was brought against a body which was to be treated as the member state.

It was arguable that "damages" in section 65(1)(b) included interest by way of damages, whether purely legal or because that result might (this Lordship did not say must) achieve consistency with EEC law.

However it was unnecessary to decide that question as it was right, in the circumstances, to allow the health authority to rely on the limit in section 65(2) in resisting an award of interest.

The appeal should be dismissed.

Solicitors: Lr Brasscours, Treasury Solicitor.

Reasonable time for bank to examine documents

Bankers Trust Company v State Bank of India

Before Mr Justice Hirst

[Judgment July 31]

Under article 16 of the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits, 1983 Revision, the reasonable time which an issuing bank had to examine the documents presented to it before refusing them, on the ground that they appeared upon their face not to accord with the terms of the credit agreement, was the time required by the bank to determine on the basis of the documents alone whether to take up or refuse them.

Mr Justice Hirst so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division in giving judgment for the defendants, State Bank of India, against a claim by the plaintiffs, Bankers Trust Co, for a reimbursement of \$10,335m, being payment

made to the defendant on a confirmed irrevocable letter of credit without recourse, which the plaintiffs claimed a refund following their rejection of the relevant documents because of discrepancies.

Mr Peter Goldsmith, QC and Mr Julian Flaux for the plaintiffs; Mr Peter Scott, QC and Mr Mark Haggood for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE HIRST said that he rejected the plaintiffs' argument that an implied term should be read into article 16 that a reasonable time included time for the applicant, for whose account the letter of credit was opened.

That did not embargo consultation with the applicant to determine whether he wished to waive or not, provided (and this was the crucial proviso) that

that fell within the reasonable time needed by the issuing bank itself to carry out its function and did not extend it.

If the applicant had not made up his mind prior to the expiry of the reasonable time the issue of the article 16D rejection notice by the issuing bank would not, as the expert evidence showed, preclude further discussion and possible subsequent waiver; indeed there had been evidence that the giving of the rejection Telex was the most common way of triggering discussion to resolve problems raised by the existence of discrepancies.

Solicitors: Linklaters & Paines, Slaughter & May.

Correction
In *Legal Aid Board v Russell* (The Times June 29) references to Order 65, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court should be to Order 62, rule 5.

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THE LAW

A new age of respect

Lawyers are the technicians, the "back-room boys" of the business world. The Guinness affair has demonstrated the dire consequences of disregarding or overruling their technical advice. The humiliation of the Guinness four is directly due to their cavalier attitudes towards the law and lawyers. Not surprisingly, therefore, there was considerable satisfaction at the outcome of the trial among many City solicitors.

"I think the result is great for City lawyers," Rowan Bosworth-Davies, a solicitor at Richards Butler and a former member of the Fraud Squad, says. "From now on clients will think twice before disregarding, or not consulting, their lawyers. I think it puts us clearly in the ascendant."

Whether the result will lead inevitably to American-style lawyer-mania is not so clear. Some commentators have suggested that businessmen will now do nothing without referring first to their lawyers and that legal teams will consequently grow massively.

The Guinness affair has shown just how dangerous it can be to disregard the

advice of lawyers, Edward Fennell writes

as requests for advice increase. Yet most leading London firms say that their clients have already learned that lesson and changed their mode of operation. John Newbigin, of Cameron Markby Hewitt, says that he noticed a change in attitudes from about 18 months ago in the wake of the Blue Arrow affair. In the case of the merchant banks, legal advice has now become much more systematic to avoid the possibility of inadvertent errors being made.

Where last week's verdicts may have a real impact, however, is on ambitious entrepreneurs who are accustomed to getting their own way and who dislike any brakes being applied by lawyers.

"During the trial, a lot of people went by no means sure that a conviction would follow," Charles Allen-Jones, of

Linklaters, says. "Consequently, the result of the trial has come as something of a shock and should mean that even the strong personalities will now pause to seek legal advice. Henceforward, they are going to have to disclose fully, in advance, to their lawyers what they intend doing to establish that it is within the law."

The sentences will also give more muscle to lawyers when they issue warnings to their clients. According to Mr Bosworth-Davies, there will be less fudging of legal advice and fewer attempts to find favour with the client. Lawyers will be more confident about doing a fully professional job and be more self-assured when they present clients with unpalatable truths. There are, however, pitfalls as well as benefits for lawyers. The more advice is sought on complex issues in

grey areas of the law, the more danger there is that incorrect interpretations will be given. The more requests for advice there are, the more lawyers become indispensable, and the greater the risk of error.

Just how lawyers will deal with this is an important issue. There may, for example, be a strong argument for tightening up the internal procedures of law firms in order to have detailed records of what advice clients were given and when. Traditionally, it has not been a common practice to make notes on every piece of advice nor to record every meeting with a client in depth. However, it may be in the interest of lawyers to start doing this. As a result of his former career in the police force, Mr Bosworth-Davies now tape-records all his meetings with clients. "I have seen what can happen when you do not have a proper system for taking notes, and this is a precaution to protect me," he says.

Whether other firms will follow Mr Bosworth-Davies' example is uncertain. The traditional pragmatism of English lawyers has en-



The result is great: solicitor Rowan Bosworth-Davies

couraged them to aim for what is effective rather than to worry excessively about "belt and braces" security. Security carries a price tag and, at the end of the day, it is the clients who have to pay. Will they be prepared to pay for added safety measures that are primarily in lawyers' in-

terests? Several firms have expressed anxiety that legal fees will have to rise to ensure that corners are no longer cut. The Guinness affair has raised at least one crucial question for lawyers. How tight must our systems be if we are to protect ourselves as well as our clients?

INNS AND OUTS

As the convictions and stiff sentences in the Guinness trial sink in around the City, the man who helped start the criminal investigation is coming to Europe. New York firm Nickson Hargrave Devans & Doyle is this week holding two seminars, one in Stockholm and the other in London (September 7 at Gray's Inn in conjunction with Jaques & Lewis). The seminars will address the growing trend in the US towards criminal investigations and prosecutions of companies, offices and directors. Guest speaker is Rudolph Giuliani, who, as US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, led the high-profile prosecutions for insider trading and securities fraud that, among others, uncovered Ivan Bosky's illegal dealings, which in turn exposed the Guinness payment into a Bosky account. This led the US Securities and Exchange Commission to tip off the Department of Trade and Industry about possible wrong-doings during the Guinness takeover of Distillers. V.G. Staffan Lundback, a partner with Nickson Hargrave, says: "Mr Giuliani will provide a timely and dramatic first-hand view of the subject by speaking of insider trading, enforcement of securities laws and the process of criminal investigation and prosecution." The firm anticipates a massive turnover.

While UK and US law firms with offices in the Gulf consider bringing their lawyers home, some US attorneys are preparing for action advising the military on the spot. Two ten-lawyer legal units of Army Reserve members, one in New York and one in the Bronx, have been told that they will be among the first to be called up if the Gulf crisis continues. The lawyers will spend most of their time advising the commanders on the legality of their actions as well as drafting wills and powers of attorney for the soldiers on active duty. They will also help negotiate supply contracts and handle relations with Saudi Arabia. If war does break out, then part of their brief is to ensure that the US forces comply with international conventions and with the rules governing the use of weapons as well as prosecute and defend at courts martial.

Last week, the Centre for Alternative Technology, the mid-Wales-based centre of Britain's green technology development, raised eyebrows by exploiting a few capitalist techniques to become a plc and raise £1 million through an issue of shares. The lawyer behind the complex legal manoeuvres is solicitor Malcolm Lynch, who is well-known in his field as the man behind most of the legal innovations involving co-operatives. The centre's decision makes it the first co-operative-managed plc to issue shares qualifying as investments under the Business Expansion Scheme. Mr Lynch has his own firm in Leeds, where he specialises in employee share ownership schemes and ethical investments, and has advised on the first two employee share ownership trusts, set up under the Finance Act 1989, including one for the centre. If the globe keeps warming and the rainforests keep tumbling, his services should continue to be in demand.

Female lawyers depressed by the existence of the glass ceiling and other obstacles in their career paths might spare a thought for women in Iran, where the constitution specifically prohibits women becoming judges or holding other high office because, according to President Rafsanjani, "they have smaller brains than men and are too emotional". The present regime in Iran has launched an extraordinarily repressive campaign to outlaw "mal-dressing" and "improper veiling" by summarily punishing women who show locks of hair, wear make-up, shiny stockings or tight clothing. The punishments are severe, including whipping or imprisonment, and extend to men who "mal-dress" by wearing "sleeveless T-shirts or white shirts unbuttoned at the collar". Tehran radio has warned that computerised lists will be kept on the mal-veiled. The campaign has received the support of the head of the Iranian judiciary, Mullah Yazdi, who has instructed the court system to treat those arrested for mal-veiling "decisively".

SCRIVENOR

An unfavourable account

Rearranging legal bills to suit the books is common practice in the US, a study finds

Trust of lawyers is almost universal and it has a long history. In the United States, where the number of lawyers has doubled in the past 20 years as their fees have grown larger, jokes about the profession have replaced ethnic jokes as dinner party conversation. "How do you know when a lawyer is lying? His lips move."

Stories about the sharp practices of American lawyers are legendary, but almost entirely apocryphal. Lisa Lerman, a law professor at the Catholic University in Washington DC, has tried to catalogue some of the habits of lawyers in private practice. Her findings, published in a recent issue of the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, show widespread deception over fees charged, including the padding of bills, charging two clients for the same time and doing unnecessary work.

Her research was based on anecdotes from interviews with a sample of 20 American practitioners, but her study was systematic and written up in a 100-page academic article accompanied by 392 foot-

notes. She found that the lawyers were lying about the type or degree of expertise they had, deceiving their clients for their own convenience or to control the flow of work, and cheating on bills to impress partners in the firm. Most of her interviewees were in private practice, although a few worked for government bodies. They were youngists, from small and large firms and local and national practices, but the focus was on lawyers doing civil work. Professor Lerman talked to her subjects in confidence, either face to face or on the telephone.

The main motivation for the cheating was the desire to make money, a drive that has intensified as the American legal profession has become increasingly competitive.

American law firms hire lawyers and set charges that relate not to the amount of work available, but to the profit level sought by the partners.

If there is not enough work for the lawyers to do, they must choose to do unnecessary work, to be about the number of hours they work, or to fail to meet the minimum number of hours required for billing purposes and thereby reduce their chances of becoming a partner. "The sub-culture of the law firm does not put much emphasis on truthfulness," Professor Lerman says. "In large firms, earning money is valued above all else."

One of her subjects, given the pseudonym Winston, reported that makework, which is work that the client pays for, but that does not lead



to any useful result, was the most common kind of deception. He offered as an example a case where a company hired his firm and another firm to work on two similar matters. His firm "did an exhaustive

\$100,000 job and produced a two-inch binder filled with memos... The other firm did a 15-page memo that cost about \$5,000. The client was "initially kind of horrified at the difference. It had something to do with the fact that the partner who had the matter in our firm felt that he had to get his billings up, thought he had to make a strong impression on the firm at that point in his career and he had people around who could do the work for him," the subject said.

Some of the lawyers said they had a kind of Robin Hood policy, robbing the rich to pay for the poor. Michael Williams, another pseudonym, said his charging practices were influenced by the ability of the client to pay. "There is pressure to bill at least eight hours a day and I generally bill as much as I can to the richest client and underbill clients who cannot afford standard rates. It is rough justice," he said.

LUCY HODGES

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An unique opportunity has arisen with a well known Liechtenstein fiduciary group for a (retired) English trust lawyer. Candidates must have comprehensive knowledge of UK trust law and experience of drafting trust documents. This position would be for an initial period of one year and would suit an individual seeking a fresh challenge as it combines the opportunity to play a prominent role with the advantages of life in the attractive surroundings of Vaduz Liechtenstein.

For further information please write to: Ref: J. Crawford-Burton, 7 Storey's Gate, London SW1 3AT. All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence.

Trade Marks Executive
Nestlé Head Office

We are seeking a highly-experienced specialist who will have responsibility for the registration and protection of the various Nestlé trade marks within the U.K. and, occasionally, overseas. This will also include advising against the use of trade marks which might infringe a third party's rights. A knowledge of other areas of industrial property law would be an advantage.

You should be mature, with a minimum of 10 years' industrial practice, and preferably with an appreciation of a computerised record system.

There will be a highly-competitive salary together with the benefits associated with a large international organisation.

Please reply with a full c.v. to Jenny Forsyth, Personnel Officer, The Nestlé Company Ltd., St George's House, Croydon, Surrey CR9 1NR.



Legal Recruitment

PRIVATE PRACTICE

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL TO £25,000
Our clients are a small commercial practice with a reputation for excellence. They are seeking a high calibre 0-1 year qualified solicitor who will assist the company/commercial partner and build a career with this friendly firm.

PRIVATE CLIENT C. £40,000
A long established practice is seeking a private client solicitor with around 23 years' experience, preferably gained in a City firm. A high level of technical ability together with a good client manner are regarded as essential for the key position.

SURREY CITY RATE
Our clients are seeking a City-trained commercial lawyer to establish and develop a company/commercial department. Around five years' qualified and probably from a top ten firm, you will be coping for quality of life as well as work.

The above are only a small selection from the positions we are currently instructed to fill. If you would like to discuss any of these or any other aspect of your career, please telephone

Laurence Simons, Shona McDougall or Patrick Atford

071-831 3270

(071) 483 1899 evenings/weekends

Or write to: Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS.

We are qualified lawyers with extensive experience in legal recruitment and all approaches are treated in strict confidence.

COMMERCE/INDUSTRY

NEWCASTLE C. £20,000
Joint venture company based in Newcastle currently requires a newly or recently qualified lawyer to join their small legal department. The successful applicant will handle a range of commercial activities.

MIDDLESEX C. £35,000 + BENS.
A lawyer is sought to join the legal department of a financial group. Applications are invited from solicitors or barristers with between 3-5 years' experience in company/commercial law dealing with some involvement in the Financial Services Act.

BANKING LAWYER C. £45,000
An exciting opportunity has been created as the sole lawyer for the UK branch of this European bank. Applicants will handle a range of work including capital markets, litigation and general company law.

THE TIMES

The Times reaches more legal professionals than any other quality daily newspaper.

Legal Appointments appears every Tuesday.

To place your advertisement phone

Claire Kaufman
on 071 481 4481.

(Source: UK NRS: April '89 - March '90)

مكتبة من الكتب

Milk the market for a good job

Jobs have been relatively easy to find in the past few years, but now there is a downturn in the market. Graduates should not leave their search too late, Sally Watts warns

Next year, use the milk round. This unanimous advice to students who will graduate in 1991 comes from people with an overall view of the jobs market for new graduates, which is currently experiencing a downturn that is expected to last at least until next summer. And according to one specialist, the summer fairs have offered fewer job opportunities.

The bonanza of the past few years has encouraged many finalists to take a relaxed approach to finding a job, bypassing the milk round and leaving the search until after their degree. But 1990 graduates are not having as easy a time as those of 1988 and 1989.

"It is becoming clear that employers are considerably more cautious than in recent years," Keith Dugdale, the chairman of the Graduate Careers Advisory Service, says. "They are looking carefully at their graduate intake and are not unduly concerned if they do not meet their recruitment target."

"For new graduates, this means a mismatch between their expectations and the reality."

The mismatch is making it

harder for those who postponed the search until after their examinations. Mr Dugdale, who is also head of the careers service at Strathclyde University, says. He expects the milk round to "reassert itself" next year as an important recruitment medium, particularly for finalists aiming for marketing and personnel openings with blue chip companies.

The value of the milk round is also emphasised by Helen Perkins, the chairman of the Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR). In July the AGR's survey of job prospects showed a 12 per cent downturn over the past six months, and by the beginning of August employers' recruitment campaigns had ended, whereas they are usually still struggling to meet their targets.

Predictably, graduates whose degrees are in the arts, humanities or social sciences are the first to feel the effects.

"This year the whole atmosphere is different," Miss Perkins says. "This time last year personnel managers were looking harassed and drawn, but this year they are more relaxed. We are cautious about exaggerating, but

two things are at work: the mini recession and the fact that employers are to some extent scaling down."

"My advice to new graduates is not to panic. It is a healthy situation, although it means they have to work a bit harder at their search and be more targeted on the jobs they want. Students should use the milk round. It is a real opportunity because companies come with real job offers to have a first look at the students and give students a chance to look at them."

"If they leave all their searching until after the finals, the career start of their dreams, or vacancies in the company of their dreams, may have gone."

Although the jobs market is not suffering from the "major upset" of the early 1980s, Peter Elvin, the careers officer at Essex University, anticipates that some 1990 graduates will still be job-hunting at the end of the year and that in 1991 more vacancies will be filled in the milk round cycle.

"It is best to be involved in recruitment early or you may lose out for that year," Mr Elvin says.



All three careers specialists believe that new graduates should not forgo the now almost customary six or 12 months' gap between college and work because, provided they know what they want to do with the time and use it effectively, employers find the break has a maturing effect.

"But do not go without first putting a toe in the water," Miss Perkins says. "It is in your own interests to pursue applications in order to get an idea of the market. If you have no experience of what job search involves, you will feel it when you get back."

The most promising job areas

continue to be technology, computer science, law, engineering, research and development and the financial sector, although Keith Dugdale has noticed a tightening up in finance, where in recent years chartered accountancy has absorbed about 10 per cent of all graduates.

At Essex, Mr Elvin finds that while some areas are still buoyant, there are contradictions. Organisations involved in defence work are "a little more cautious" and computer consultancies related to the defence industry are also cutting back.

Some advice from the three

experts, for those still hunting for a job, is: if your degree is in languages, take a short course in a business subject such as export marketing to give yourself a basic skill in addition to your languages.

People with an arts or social sciences degree should also consider short post-graduate courses to enhance their prospects by having a skill to offer employers. They, and humanities graduates and students, are also advised to acquire "well-developed, transferable personal skills", such as communicating ability and team spirit.

Finally, contact your university

or polytechnic careers service to update yourself about vacancies and the general jobs situation and acquire some tips on being as professional as possible in your approach. At least keep on the mailing list so that you receive news of the autumn fairs.

These are at Warwick (September 25), Leeds (September 27), Glasgow (October 23 and 24), and London (December 5). Bristol University runs a Graduate Careerline (0272 303149) every Thursday afternoon and evening to give advice and guidance to those who have graduated in the past three years.

PUBLIC & HEALTH CARE

Continued From Previous Page



NCH AND THE PEPER HARROW FOUNDATION

Are seeking
A DIRECTOR
For

THE CUMBERLOW COMMUNITY

This provides a unique opportunity of founding and developing a new long-term therapeutic community for 30+ seriously emotionally disturbed young people aged 16+ in South London

The Director, while demonstrating flair and an ability to address the issues of adolescence from a psychotherapeutic perspective, will also have significant residential experience. The initial programme will fully residential. It will require the management of group dynamics so that they can be applied to a psychotherapeutic task - as indeed must all aspects of the communal living experience. The programme will be developed later to provide a continuing service of psycho-therapy and support to young adults in the wider community. She or he must also be sensitive to and address the racial, ethnic and gender issues of residents and staff.

The Community will be managed organisationally by an autonomous Group that represents a partnership between The Peper Harrow Foundation and NCH, and will therefore embody the care and treatment concepts of those organisations

Accommodation and an exceptional remuneration package will be available

The Closing date is 30 September. For Further details of the project and of how to apply, please write to:

THE MANAGEMENT GROUP OF THE CUMBERLOW COMMUNITY
c/o The Peper Harrow Foundation Ref T
14 Charterhouse Square
London EC1M 6AX

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL OF WALES

ASSISTANT UNIT GENERAL MANAGER

SALARY Senior Manager's Pay Point 9 - £28,620 + PRP

The University Hospital of Wales is the primary centre of excellence for clinical practice, medical and dental education and research in Wales. It is an 840 bedded hospital and occupies a 53 acre site in a northern suburb of the City of Cardiff.

The hospital, which is the largest in the Principality, provides all main acute specialities including a number of regional units and regional services. The Unit also incorporates the Dental Hospital which is situated on the same site, and the Children's ENT Hospital situated some 2 1/2 miles to the west.

The post offers an outstanding opportunity to gain experience in the management of a large acute unit during a period of major change, and has arisen following the promotion of the present postholder.

As Assistant UGM you will be responsible for-

- all hotel, administrative and most of the paramedical services.
- Co-ordinating the planning function - including all service improvements, capital and revenue developments. (£9 million of capital developments this year, taking the hospital up to 932 beds.)
- Deputizing in the absence of the part-time clinical UGM.

The successful applicant will assist the UGM in the introduction of a clinical management structure and resource management initiatives, the formulation of business plans, contract negotiation and other changes implicit in White Paper proposals. The post calls for an innovative and imaginative manager who is able to demonstrate good leadership, analytical and diplomacy skills.

Applicants are likely to be graduates with several years operational experience with a large organisation and have a relevant professional qualification with the health service.

If you feel you have the necessary qualities to meet the demands of this exciting post you can make informal enquiries to the Unit General Manager, Mr Russell Hopkins on (0222) 755944 ext 2150.

Or for an application form and information pack, please contact Mr Jonathan Pritchard on (0222) 755944 ext 2917.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to make an informal visit to the Unit prior to interview.

Closing date 20 September 1990.

COMMITTED

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

South Glamorgan Health Authority

S.D.H.A.

Committed to Caring

DERBYSHIRE ROYAL INFIRMARY UNIT FINANCE AND INFORMATION DIRECTORATE

The Derbyshire Royal Infirmary is a major centre for the provision of health care in the Derbyshire region. It is a large and complex organisation with a wide range of services and a high profile in the community.

UNIT FINANCE MANAGER

Senior Manager's Pay - Spine Point 17
Salary: £23,910 (+ Performance Related pay)
and attractive recruitment package
(Pay award pending 1st September 1990)

The challenging position has responsibility for the day to day management and financial control of the Finance Directorate and will involve the management of a large team of staff. The successful candidate will be responsible for the financial management of the Directorate and will be involved in the development of the Directorate's financial strategy.

DEPUTY UNIT FINANCE MANAGER

Administrative and Clerical - Grade 7
Salary: £15,674 - £18,336

Supporting the Unit Finance Manager, you will have a key role in ensuring the effective day-to-day control of operational budgets, monitoring and control of financial performance, and ensuring the financial control of the Directorate. The successful candidate will be responsible for the financial management of the Directorate and will be involved in the development of the Directorate's financial strategy.

SOUTHERN DERBYSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY

MATERNITY HOSPITAL midwives

Here in Oxford we are fully committed to the changes of the 90's. This positive attitude is fully demonstrated in the links with Oxford Polytechnic and Midwifery Education. We require MIDWIVES-GRADUATE, E.F. AND G who are enthusiastic, sensitive and able to support patients, relatives and colleagues. (Job-share considered). Application forms and Job Descriptions from: Maternity Personnel Office, John Radcliffe Maternity Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU. Tel: 01865 877912.

Oxfordshire Health Authority
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

LEGAL

THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION THE INNS OF COURT SCHOOL OF LAW

PRINCIPAL LECTURER

The Council of Legal Education is developing arrangements for the training and/or testing of applicants who already hold legal professional qualifications and who wish to qualify for practice at the Bar of England and Wales. Potential applicants include European lawyers exercising rights under the European Community Directive on the Mutual Recognition of Diplomas, lawyers from Common Law jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom, and solicitors admitted in England or Northern Ireland who wish to transfer to the Bar. The Council wishes to appoint a Principal Lecturer to oversee the academic aspects of these developments, and to act as co-ordinator for such courses and assessment procedures as may be introduced.

Applicants should have a good honours degree and, if possible, a legal professional qualification. Considerable experience of administrative work, preferably including course development, is essential.

The present salary scale for Principal Lecturers (to be reviewed in 1990/91) is £27,065 per annum to £33,420 per annum, including a London Allowance of £1,767 per annum.

The appointment will be from October 1990, or otherwise by agreement.

Application forms and further details are available from the Sub-Dean, The Council of Legal Education, 4 Gray's Inn Place, London WC1R 5DX (Tel: 071-404 5787).

Applications should be submitted by Tuesday 25th September 1990, but those received after that date may still be considered.

TECHNICAL

Regional Design Group

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ENGINEER

Salary Scale: £19,069 - £21,451 per annum
Reference S85

Looking for a Challenge? This enthusiastic and entrepreneurial multi-disciplinary Design Group is successfully keeping pace with the changing times in providing a much sought after wide range of services to clients involved in the provision of Health Care accommodation.

The RDG has, for some considerable time, been very successfully operating on a fully commercial basis on projects both within and outside the NHS.

We are looking for an enthusiastic Principal Assistant Engineer who has the initiative and experience to help the Group undertake a varied, existing and expanding programme of major capital works not only throughout the Mersey Region which includes the Southport area, the Wirral and Cheshire but beyond.

You will fill a key post directing one of the engineering teams and will be accountable to the Principal Engineer for the team's efficient management and for the production of sound, cost effective and energy conscious solutions to meet the various health

care building requirements, to programme and within cost limits.

We are looking for a high calibre engineer with at least 5 years' experience as a Chartered Engineer and preferably as a Corporate Member of IEE. Candidates will have a broad, senior level experience in building services engineering and will be required to demonstrate staff motivation and management skills.

The Group's professional skills are fully supported by state of the art computer technology including the 3-D ACROPOLIS CAD system.

If you think you have the requisite qualifications to meet our requirements and are interested in joining us, have a chat with me.

Arthur E. Pugh, Principal Engineer, Tel. 051-236 4620 Ext. 2241 or write for an Application Form, Job Description and Practice Brochure from the Regional Personnel Department, Hamilton House, 24 Pall Mall, Liverpool L3 6AL. Tel. 051-236 4620 Ext 2115 Closing date: 1st September 1990.

MERSEY REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
An equal opportunity employer

مكتبة من الكتب

McEnroe finds his old touch

On match point, a Navratilova forehand hovered on top of the net until falling back on her side. It was that sort of day for her. Manuela Maleeva now meets Mary Joe Fernandez in the quarter-final, and Gabriela Sabatini and the unseeded Leila Meskhi meet in another quarter-final.

[illegible]

champions will not have things all their own way this season. Britannia, who had been stretched by Sovereign Leasing Sale in the semi-finals, took two hours to defeat Brixton.

RESULTS: Heat 1: **Platz:** Team Mexico
Melroy 3, Speedwell Rucaron 1. Women
Heat 2: **Platz:** 3. Woodleigh Brixton

IBALL RESULTS

WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Werder Bremen 3, Hamburger SV 1; Karlsruhe SC 2, Bayern Munich 3; VfL Bochum 0, Elversicht Frankfurt 0; St Pauli 1, Bayer Uerdingen 1; Borussia Mönchengladbach 2, Cologne 2.

Not that our athletes stand still badly. Some of them deserve a medal for the way they stand still. And of course, in these championships, they have been standing still with sound effects, an

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Western.....	4	3	1	0	10	5	7
Midwest.....	4	3	0	1	10	3	8
Midwest.....	4	2	2	0	9	2	6

id	5	2	1	2	4	8	5
id	2	2	1	1	4	8	5
id	4	2	1	1	6	8	4
no	5	2	1	2	5	5	4
n	4	2	0	2	6	8	4
no	4	1	2	1	3	5	3
i	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
ak	5	1	1	3	2	5	3
i	4	1	1	2	4	3	2
da	4	1	1	2	5	7	2
dna	5	1	1	3	7	10	2

TREBLE CHANCE (home towns): Aston Vale, Nottingham Forest, Newcastle, Watford, Bradford City, Stoke, Cardiff, Chesterfield, Walsley, Marlow, Croydon.

BEST DRAWS: Nottingham Forest, Watford, Bradford City, Chesterfield, Marlow.

HARDY
1 Bradford City
1 Brentford v Chester

1 Whentree v Radcliffe
housewife

Bristol City, Portsmouth, Wolves, Brentford, Leyton Orient, Burnsey, Rochdale, Wrexham, Motherwell, Clyde.
FIREN GOOS: Hosses: Tottenham, Bristol City, Southampton, Wigan Athletic.
Dresses: Oldham, Woking, Aberdeen.
Awards: Nottingham Forest, Watford.

[illegible]

nemie Halle 0; FC Magdeburg 3, C
 West Jens 1; Dynamo Dresden 0, B
 C 2; Hansa Rostock 2, Stahl Brand
 burg 1; Lokomotiv Leipzig
 senhüttenstadt 1. Leading position
 after three matches: 1, Berlin FC, 6pts
 Hansa Rostock, 5; 3, Vorwärts Frankf

ing 2, Penarol 1; Central Español Wanderers 1; Nacional 2, Beller Vistas Program 2, Cuzco 0; Liverpool 1, River Plate 0; Racing 2, Huracan Guayaquil 0, Cerro 0.

WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Werder Bremen 3, Hamburger SV 1; Karlsruhe SC Bayern Munich 3; VfL Bochum 0, Borussia Frankfurt 0; St Pauli 1, Bayer Uerdingen Borussia Mönchengladbach 2, Cologne

id	5	2	1	2	4	8	5
id	2	2	1	1	4	8	5
id	4	2	1	1	6	8	4
no	5	2	1	2	5	5	4
n	4	2	0	2	6	8	4
no	4	1	2	1	3	5	3
i	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
ak	5	1	1	3	2	5	3
i	4	1	1	2	4	3	2
da	4	1	1	2	5	7	2
dna	5	1	1	3	7	10	2

Whittingham out
The Portsmouth player, Guy Whittingham, is out of football for up to a month after sustain-

TREBLE CHANCE (home towns): Aston Vale, Nottingham Forest, Newcastle, Walford, Bradford City, Stoke, Cardiff, Chesterfield, Walsley, Marlow, Croydon.

BEST DRAWS: Nottingham Forest, Walford, Bradford City, Chesterfield, Marlow.

HIGH SCORERS: Walsley, Walford, Aston Vale, Oldham, Woking, Aberdeen. **Deaths:** Nottingham Forest, Walford.

Bristol City, Portsmouth, Wolves, Brentford, Leyton Orient, Burnley, Rochdale, Wrexham, Motherwell, Clyde.

FIREN GOALS: Hossain Torrington, Bristol City, Burnley, Walsley, Woking, Wolves, Oldham, Woking, Aberdeen. **Deaths:** Nottingham Forest, Walford.

[illegible]

nemie Halle 0; FC Magdeburg 3, C
 West Jens 1; Dynamo Dresden 0, B
 C 2; Hansa Rostock 2, Stahl Brand
 burg 1; Lokomotiv Leipzig
 senhüttenstadt 1. Leading position
 after three matches: 1, Berlin FC, 6pts
 Hansa Rostock, 5; 3, Vorwärts Frankf

ing 2, Penarol 1; Central Español
Wanderers 1; Nacional 2, Bells Vista
Programa 2, Cuzco 0; Liverpool 1, Riv
Plate 0; Racing 2, Huracan Guaya
Rentistas 0, Cerro 0.

WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Werder Br
men 3, Hamburger SV 1; Karlsruhe SC
Bayern Munich 3; VfL Bochum 0, Eintrac
Frankfurt 0; St Pauli 1, Bayer Uerding
Borussia Mönchengladbach 2, Cologne

id	5	2	1	2	4	8	5
id	2	2	1	1	4	8	5
id	4	2	1	1	6	8	4
no	5	2	1	2	5	5	4
n	4	2	0	2	6	8	4
no	4	1	2	1	3	5	3
i	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
ak	5	1	1	3	2	5	3
i	4	1	1	2	4	3	2
da	4	1	1	2	5	7	2
dna	5	1	1	3	7	10	2

Whittingham out
The Portsmouth player, Guy Whittingham, is out of football for up to a month after sustain-

Can we afford the true cost of sporting success?

been done is because the first cohorts of heavy trainers are only now becoming middle-aged.

He said he was now waiting for gymnasts, who have complained of backache, to have even more severe problems in their middle age. Gymnasts are forced to contort their bodies to attempt movements completed by more physically adept world champions.

He also noted that international sports adjust itself to the standards set by the gold medal winners.

He is particularly concerned at the "over-selling" of exercise for the wrong reasons, and his preference for a correct lifestyle of not over-drinking, not smoking, and moderate, sensible activity. He had a "strong gut feeling that too many people are over-training and over-straining their bodies."

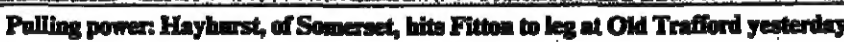
"I do not think it is right to pursue your exercise until you break. It is not intelligent from a health point of view," he said.

RUGBY UNION

Buzza the Wasp feels lure of London's colours

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

at Old Trafford yesterday



Sponsorship a boost for Durham

All-seater stadium to cost £11m

for Durham

BRITISH Gas Northern has announced a five-year £140,000 package in an attempt to bring first-class cricket to Durham.

The sponsorship deal with Durham County Cricket Club comes as the club awaits decision on its county championship application.

James Marris, the company chairman, said it would be "a opportunity to be part of a new success story ... and provide facilities which will be pleased to use to help attract new companies and customers to the north."

● **Graeme Hick**, of Worcestershire, won the single-wicket challenge at the National Garden Festival on Tyneside last Saturday. He finished with 147 points, 316 more than the runner-up, Graham Gnoch.

By ALAN LORMER

SCOTLAND'S international stadium at Murrayfield is likely to become a safe ground until the year 2000, Hogg, the Scottish Rugby Union secretary, said yesterday following the Taylor Report on the safety of grounds, present cost of an all-seater stand would be about £1 million.

The least expensive way of meeting the requirements of the Taylor Report would be to build stands at the north and south ends to connect with the existing seated facilities. The new seats would be installed in 1995, five years ago and according to Hogg, "the much older west stand, which was constructed with steel and concrete, is in very good condition and

LEADING FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES

Batting										Bowling									
Qualification: 6 completed innings, avg 51.06										Qualification: 20 wickets, avg 33.00									
Batsman	M	NO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50	0	1	Bowler	O	M	R	W	Avg	100	50	0	1
T A Moody	1	0	3	291	383	104.56	12	7	1	I R Bishop	359	27	81	17	18.33	8	21	4	1
G M Alcock	19	29	3	1153	383	104.56	12	7	1	M D Marshall	411	11	1165	59	18.74	7	29	4	1
G A Hick	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	D D Morrison	281	5	81	702	31.21	5	19	4	2
M A Atherton	19	29	8	2273	383	104.56	12	7	1	R J Ratcliffe	293	10	81	702	31.21	5	19	4	2
N M Fairbrother	19	29	8	1879	368	71.93	4	4	0	D J Mills	391	13	33	569	24.96	5	24	5	1
B R Hare	11	16	7	686	125	76.22	2	2	0	G J Parsons	293	74	74	704	28.33	6	27	4	2
M A Khan	19	29	8	1625	383	104.56	12	7	1	C J Phillips	293	74	74	704	28.33	6	27	4	2
M A Crawley	10	12	3	672	100	74.66	2	2	0	K J Barrett	293	74	74	704	28.33	6	27	4	2
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	C J Phillips	293	74	74	704	28.33	6	27	4	2
C J Tate	26	26	4	1021	191	70.73	0	0	0	P M Bicknell	635	145	113	62	26.53	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
C J Tate	26	26	4	1021	191	70.73	0	0	0	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
C J Tate	26	26	4	1021	191	70.73	0	0	0	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
M A Khan	19	29	8	1200	383	104.56	12	7	1	A K Morrison	418	109	1138	42	27.51	5	24	1	3
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McGeechan's new role

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THE Barbarians have broken with tradition and appointed a coach, a move which has delighted the five nations' championship grand slam last season, as coach to the British and Irish rugby team in England at Twickenham on September 29 and Wales, in Cardiff, a week later.

The Barbarians have generally been regarded as the services of a coach, and have never previously appointed one for more than a single match, but the club - which is celebrating its 100th birthday this year - has as its ideal, before to overcome

the problem of welding a team from a scratch squad of players from the five nations.

The only possible stumbling block to the appointment of a coach is that if McGeenhan has difficulty in taking further time off from his duties as a teacher. He hopes to be able to return to his school term later.

This is an unexpected event and after taking time off from his school and for two months on his first tour in the last year, he hopes to be able to take it off, he said. The Barbarians will all play Bradford and Bingley on October 2 to mark that club's centenary.

Taylor opts for the status quo

By STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND are to start a new era as they finished the World Cup. In announcing the first squad of his national managerial career yesterday, Graham Taylor explained why he had retained the bulk of Bobby Robson's party in Italy, and indicated that he will probably keep the same system against Hungary next Wednesday.

"We came back having lost on penalties in the World Cup semi-final to the eventual winners. That has given me a base to work on, a logical starting point, and there can be no justification for bombing people out. We shall have to see how it develops," he said.

Only four members of the World Cup squad were unavailable. Butcher and Shilton have retired from the international arena. Hodge and Bryan Robson are injured. Two of the replacements, and the reasons Taylor offered for selecting them, suggest that England will line up at Wembley with Mark Wright as the sweeper.

Dixon and Winterburn were brought in specifically because they are accustomed to filling attacking roles as full backs. "Arsenal may not use a conventional sweeper, but when they have played with three central defenders, those two have shown that they know what is expected of them," Taylor said.

His choice is to be welcomed. Pearce, though he has improved during his elongated stay in the England side, and Stevens, are renowned more for their power and athleticism rather than for their distribution. Nor is Parker, the right back for most of the World Cup, technically gifted. Dixon and Winterburn, both of whom are defensively adequate, would play more

productive parts if they were selected on the flanks. So would Dorigo, a squad member for two years who has started only once.

He and Winterburn, the reserve left backs, could be competing for the position against the Hungarians. Pearce has not yet appeared for Nottingham Forest and, unless he confirms his recovery from injury in a reserve fixture tomorrow and the first division game on Saturday, he will be omitted.

To fill the gap left by Butcher, Pallister has been promoted above Adams, another heartening sign that the national manager is committed to grace and style at the back as well as the front. Taylor appreciates that his decision represents another painful blow to the personal ambitions of Adams.

"He was told that he was going to be the future captain of England and then he was left out of the World Cup squad. That was hard to equate but he has handled himself well," Taylor said. Adams's consolation is to join Beasant, Rocastle and Ian Wright on the stand-by list.

Pallister, who made his international debut in Hungary while he was still at Middlesbrough, has been under strain as well. Taylor recognises that his huge transfer fee "put him under great pressure, and particularly because he served no apprenticeship and, therefore, has not been in the game that long."

"All hell was being let loose when he joined Manchester United, but he has come through it all. He looks good on the ball, but I would like him to be more positive when he goes forward."

Shilton's place is taken not by Beasant, who flew belatedly



Pointing the way ahead: The England manager, Graham Taylor, and his assistant, Lawrie McMenemy (left)

to Italy as the understudy for the injured Seaman, but by Martyn.

Other prominent youngsters must wait for longer than might have been expected. After the Hungarians had stated that they would include no over-age players in the under-21 international at Southampton next Tuesday, Taylor followed the strictly youthful policy.

Since only one B international is scheduled for this season, against Wales in February, there will be few openings if the seniors respond to Taylor's challenge. "It is up to them to show me that they justify a place in the squad and, if possible, to keep the competition at bay," he said.

Nevertheless, he must make one significant new move. In the absence of Butcher, Bryan Robson and Shilton, he has to appoint a fresh captain. His identity, like Taylor's first England team, will be revealed next Tuesday.

International squads, page 37

United may drop Hughes

By IAN ROSS

THE bond of loyalty which exists between Alex Ferguson, the manager of Manchester United, and Mark Hughes, the club's Welsh international forward, will be stretched to its limit at Kenilworth Road tonight.

After three disappointing performances, Ferguson is under increasing pressure to omit Hughes from his starting line-up for the game against Luton Town but the indications are that the former Barcelona player will be given another opportunity to rediscover his lost touch.

"Mark Hughes is not ensemble at the moment, it would be silly to say otherwise," Ferguson said. "The one thing he needs is a goal and sooner or later it will come. I have full respect for Mark. I think he is a great player but there are 50 or so games to be played this season

and I do not think that anyone will play in all of them."

"I have not made my mind up yet about what I am going to do. When I pulled Mark off against Sunderland on Saturday, it was not an individual thing, it was for the benefit of the team. The same thing applied when I took off Paul Ince during the recent game against Leeds United."

Les Sealey, the goalkeeper who joined United from Luton during the summer, will undergo a late fitness test after sustaining head and arm injuries during Saturday's defeat at Roker Park.

Ferguson is likely to include Beardsmore in his defence tonight which would mean Donaghy moving to left back and the swift abandonment of a sweeper system which had been designed to operate around Robson, the England captain.

● The West Bromwich Albion manager, Brian Talbot, has criticised the Football League for allowing Bristol City to delay this week's Roundelows Cup first round second leg tie for 24 hours. The League granted City's request that the game be played tomorrow instead of today as the Bristol club had played Swindon in a local derby on Sunday.

However, the decision has angered Talbot. He said: "The police ordered us to play a derby against Wolves on a Sunday last season, but the Football League would not allow our game at Stoke to be switched from Tuesday to Wednesday. That strikes me as double standards."

● The memorial service for Geoffrey Green, former football correspondent of The Times, will be at St Bride's, Fleet Street, London EC4, on Thursday (noon).

Defeat prompts retirement hint by Navratilova

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, NEW YORK

MARTINA Navratilova, the Wimbledon champion, did not want news of her impending retirement plastered all over the sports pages, but the way she talked after her defeat by Manuela Maleeva, it was difficult to draw many other conclusions.

"If I don't feel like playing next year, I won't," she said. "Right now, I don't feel like it, but I'm sure I will feel differently in a few days. I wouldn't do headlines that Martina is retiring next year, but anything is possible. I had a good chance of winning this tournament and I blew it."

In the aftermath of John McEnroe's epic five-set victory over Emilio Sanchez, Navratilova went down with unusual timidity to the Bulgarian-born Maleeva, the No. 9 seed, who before last night had not beaten Navratilova in seven previous matches. Just 12 months ago, Maleeva had not even managed a game as Navratilova swept through to a final against Steffi Graf.

But Maleeva has found a new husband and new nerve since that day, and once she had sensed that the four-times US Open champion was not her usual dominant self, she became more and more confident, winning 7-5, 3-6, 6-3.

After her defeat, Navratilova, the No. 2 seed, admitted that her quest for a

record-breaking ninth Wimbledon singles title had taken the edge off her will to win. "Wimbledon was very steady, but the whole time here I've been struggling. I think that Wimbledon took so much out of me I really had a hard time," she said.

John McEnroe reached a quarter-final with David Wheaton in a marathon match which tested the stamina of McEnroe's ageing legs as much as the nerves of the 20,000 crowd. After four hours and 20 minutes, McEnroe emerged, fists clenched and confidence high, to win 7-6, 3-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

"It was nice to be part of a match like that again," McEnroe said. "In the fifth, I was still able to move pretty well, and that's a good feeling." One he has not experienced often this year.

McEnroe's victory should encourage another champion, Bjorn Borg, who is back practising and rumoured to be contemplating a comeback. Borg is aged 34, three years older than his old rival McEnroe, and a year older than Navratilova.

Jana Novotna continued her recent improvement with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Katerina Maleeva.

Results, page 34

LTA line up Olga

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE

OLGA Morozova, who lost to Chris Evert in the Wimbledon final in 1974, is set to join the Lawn Tennis Association's coaching staff in the next few weeks. Morozova, aged 41, is the Soviet Union's national coach and will bring much-needed international experience if she decides to start a new career in England, probably at the LTA's tennis school at Bisham Abbey.

"We are still negotiating with Olga about the post and there are several things to be tied up," Richard Lewis, the director of junior coaching at the LTA, said. "But I hope it is

a matter of weeks rather than months before she can start joining with us."

Though, as yet, it is not clear exactly what Morozova's role will be within the LTA, she will be brought over under the new £600,000 Rover junior tennis initiative and will probably work with the four new girls at Bisham, the first to be sent to the school.

"It will be nice to come to a new country, because I will be able to learn from the experience as well," Morozova said, whose own daughter is the best under-12 player in the Soviet Union.

ENGLAND SQUADS

SENIOR (v Hungary at Wembley, September 12): G. Waddock (Rangers), D. Beasant (Arsenal), R. Martin (Crystal Palace), G. Stevens (Rangers), L. Dixon (Arsenal), S. Pearce (Nottingham Forest), A. Doolan (Chelsea), N. Winstanley (Aston Villa), P. Parker (Queens Park Rangers), D. Wright (Derby County), G. Pallister (Manchester United), T. Steven (Rangers), P. Gascoigne (Tottenham Hotspur), S. McMahon (Liverpool), D. Platt (Aston Villa), J. Barnes (Liverpool), G. Waddie (Manchester United), M. Bostons (Nottingham Forest), P. Beardsley (Liverpool), S. Bull (Wolverhampton Wanderers), R. Neaves (Birmingham City), A. Adams (Arsenal), D. Rocastle (Arsenal), I. Wright (Crystal Palace).

UNDER-21 (v Hungary at Southampton, September 11): A. Miller (Arsenal), W. White (Tottenham Hotspur), G. Chelms (Nottingham Forest), J. Doolan (Southampton), G. Waddock (Rangers), D. Lee (Chelsea), J. James (Luton Town), G. Tlor (Barnsley), P. Warham (Oxford United), J. Edwards (Exeter), W. Blake (Aston Villa), D. Matthews (Chelsea), C. Ramsey (Derby County), L. Sharpe (Manchester United), J. Johnson (North County), R. Thomas (Walsley), Rod Wallace (Southampton), K. Campbell (Arsenal), O. Kelly (Aston Villa), J. Jackson (Nottingham Forest), M. Bostons (Manchester United), A. Shearer (Southampton), R. Neaves (Nottingham Forest), P. Beasant (Liverpool), A. Adams (Arsenal), D. Rocastle (Arsenal), I. Wright (Crystal Palace).

Rafferty to miss Open

RONAN Rafferty, Europe's No. 1 golfer last season, yesterday confirmed he would not be playing in the Panasonic European Open at Sunningdale, starting on Thursday.

The Irish player had indicated, after winning the Ebel European Masters in Switzerland on Sunday, that he might not be playing at Sunningdale.

However, Nick Faldo, Ian Woosnam, José-Maria

Olazábal and Sandy Lyle are among the entrants, along with Robert Gamez, the young American who has won two tournaments in his first year as a professional.

Peter Urwin, of Birchgrove, the tournament promoters, said he was told Rafferty was "tired and taking a rest". Asked about appearance money, Urwin said: "It was not a factor at this stage."

Golfers in cup wrangle

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

EUROPE'S leading golfers could agree tonight to a move that would end their participation in the Ryder Cup match. The players, including Nick Faldo, have been invited to attend a meeting convened by the PGA European Tour to discuss the conflict with the Professional Golfers' Association over the organisation of the biennial encounter against the United States.

The players have been sent a confidential document prepared by the PGA European Tour and detailing the prolonged campaign with the PGA over the cup.

It is conceivable that the players will sanction a move which would leave the PGA with no option other than to accept a compromise or face running the Ryder Cup without the golfers who have dominated it in recent years. The PGA has stated it would continue to run the Ryder Cup with club professionals if necessary, and the alternative for the touring professionals would be to initiate a transatlantic trophy.

The PGA European Tour wants the views of its 300 players so that it can take a firm stand with the PGA.

although it is the players themselves who possibly hold the key to the future of the match. For the paradox is that a financial offer made by the PGA European Tour to the PGA could push the players to seek remuneration for their services.

I understand the Tour initially put forward a deal to the PGA whereby the PGA was guaranteed the first £750,000 of the surplus, excluding television revenue, with the additional profit being equally split. The PGA is reported to have offered the Tour £1 million from the 1991 and 1993 matches, which the Tour turned down.

The PGA, which pays a facility fee to the Tour in recompense for staff time, has through Samuel Ryder's original trust, always held control of the match, so its argument is that the Tour is in no position to make an offer for something it does not own. The Tour, however, believes that it possesses the expertise in staging tournaments of the scope of the Ryder Cup and that it is better equipped to take the match into the 21st century.

The players when discussing the wrangle could elect to seek "appearance money" for 1993, amounting, at £60,000 each, to £720,000, which is not far short of the Tour's offer that the PGA should take the first £750,000 of profit resulting from the Ryder Cup.

By coincidence, the PGA announced last February that following the match last September at The Belfry the surplus before taxation was £751,065 on a turnover of £7.5 million.

Since then, the decision has been taken, albeit on a casting vote by Lord Derby, to keep the next home match in 1993 at The Belfry and that, too, has done nothing to heal the rift between the Tour and the PGA. Lord Derby subsequently resigned as the chairman of the Ryder Cup committee.

The European Tour trio of Bernard Gallacher, Tony Jacklin and Neil Coles supported a move to Spain, the PGA committee members, Brian Anderson, David Huish and Phil Weaver, backed The Belfry, and Lord Derby immediately gave his casting vote to The Belfry.

Fouroux resigns as coach but retains position of power

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

JACQUES Fouroux's resignation as France's rugby union coach was announced yesterday. But any thought that his influence will be markedly decreased, after a decade of dominating the playing affairs of the country, should be laid aside, since he remains as chairman of selectors and favourite to succeed Albert Ferrasse as president of the French Rugby Federation.

"You cannot become president if you are still the prime minister," was how a French colleague put it. In one sense Fouroux's decision has been foreshadowed over the last 18 months but in another it has come as a surprise. Despite having stayed this long in an atmosphere of increasing criticism - France have lost nine of their last 13 internationals, including the game last May against Romania in Auch, Fouroux's home town, and the recent three-match series in Australia - he will not now remain until the 1991 World Cup is over.

It may be that his plans had to be changed after the well-publicised squabble with

Pierre Berbizier during 1989. Berbizier, the much-capped scrum half from Agen, appeared the natural successor as French coach to Fouroux but instead it is Daniel Dubroca, the former Agen and France prop and hooker, who will coach his country with a backs coach to be decided tomorrow.

Fouroux's era as a player was attended by controversy since it clashed with those of two other talented scrum halves, Max Barrau and Richard Astre. In the same way he was seldom free from criticism during his ten years as coach, despite his unparalleled achievements: two grand slams, in 1981 and 1987, three outright five-nations championships and three shared championships.

That success was based on a succession of big backs and centres who looked as though they would be equally at home in the back row. It was said of Fouroux that he destroyed French flair yet that flair always had a habit of breaking

out, most recently in June in two of the three games against Australia, and it should be remembered that during Fouroux's reign such backs as Serge Blanco and Philippe Sella, arguably the best in their respective positions in the world at one time, have flourished.

"He still has my confidence," Ferrasse said yesterday, "but I can't continually oppose his will. It's always dramatic when you lose a man of quality but he will remain chairman of the selection committee."

Ulster have made four changes from the team that drew with Yorkshire at Hull at the weekend for the game against Spain at Ravenhill tonight (7.30).

McCoy and McDonald are not available and are replaced at tight-head prop and hooker respectively by Millar and Smith. McKinty is recalled at blind-side flanker and in the back row. It was said of Fouroux that he destroyed French flair yet that flair always had a habit of breaking

Direct Line has now launched a muscular challenge against the building society dominance of the property insurance market. Aggressively, it is guaranteeing to shave 20 per cent off the costs of the insurance of those who have bought their property in the last five years and have insured it through one of 17 of the top 20 building societies.

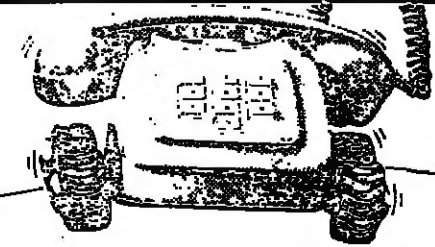
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Optimism over S Africa's return to sports arena

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN STOCKHOLM

THE Fourth International Conference Against Apartheid in Sport, to be opened by Prince Bertil here this morning, takes place with some non-racial South African sports organising bodies believing that a return to international sport could be no more than 18 months away; maybe no more than a year.

Included among these, according to Sam Ramsamy, the chairman of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC), are officials of some of the most widely-followed sports. Ramsamy, who this afternoon addresses the conference of some 300 delegates from 39 countries, would not be specific beforehand, but it must be assumed that football and athletics are foremost among these. Both would be welcomed by FIFA and the IAAF, respectively, the moment it is possible for the country has so much to give.

The speakers are expected to reflect the accelerating social change within South Africa and the new optimism for the return to sport of a multi-racial country which could in

a short time rival the United States in its talent and drive.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, makes the keynote speech this morning, following an address from Joseph Garba, president of the United Nations General Assembly. Besides Ramsamy's, one of the most-awaited speeches will come today from Mfuleki George, president of the non-white National Olympic and Sports Congress of South Africa (NOSAC).

Asked last year by the IOC to go to meet a cross-section of South African leaders, the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) invited Ramsamy to make a formal visit of investigation, on which he will report to all interested African parties in Harare in November.

Ramsamy's trip was, significantly, coordinated by George, in conjunction with the so-called establishment organisation, the South African National Olympic Committee (SANOC), while orientated, but for some years heavily committed to integration at all levels.

Such a collaboration is itself indicative of the changing scene, and Ramsamy found himself in a position to say, more emphatically than ever after his visit, that he was "very optimistic about the future."

Since the early eighties, I have been advocating, to criticism from such as the Bishop of Liverpool, a selective re-admission of the most integrated sports federations as encouragement to others and as a powerful internal tool with which to stimulate South African society. Even hardline anti-apartheid activists, such as Jean-Claude Gangue of the Congo, a member of the IOC anti-apartheid commission, are believed now to be recognising the possible value of such incentives.

The conference may reveal how much this is so: for Gangue is among those present here, together with other UN representatives, such as ambassador James Gbohe and Satirois Mousouris. Indeed the shrillest note of protest, justified for so long, but now needing a practical streak of judgement related to new domestic realities, is likely to come from the several Swedish speakers

who have never visited South Africa.

Sweden's national sports federation is the first to host such a conference, as opposed previously to governments. Sweden's alliance to the anti-apartheid movement is the most long-standing of all, and achievements are self-evident.

Now, however, is a time for re-assessment. "The issue is one of human relations," Ramsamy says. "It has always tended to be seen as a political issue because it is only politicians who can make the decisions. The situation, therefore, depends on political development."

It must be said that Ramsamy has done everything in the past to exploit political clout, but the evidence of development in South Africa is clear, and thus it could more indicate this than the fact that Ramsamy, for so long a leading instrument of white South African exclusion, should now be running up the green flag.

"I found that all organisations were overwhelmingly in favour of

single national non-racial governing bodies," Ramsamy said.

Part of his role, on his first visit for 18 years, was to spell out the necessary terms for re-entry, and also to try to establish conditions by which, when it happens, there will be an equal distribution of facilities and finance.

One of Ramsamy's reservations is that many sports are still divided among different racial organising bodies: he cites four in both rugby and football and three in athletics. That does a slight injustice to the South African Amateur Athletic Union (SAAAU), the largest, which, though originally white-orientated, has formed sub divisions for track and field, road running and cross country and arguably has better race relations than some clubs in Britain.

"We may be already past the point at which no South Africans who have the most to gain from re-entry into international sport do not have a white skin."